NATIONAL ANTI-SLAVERY STANDARD.

L. MARIA CHILD, Editor. | Without Concealment----Without Compromise. | DAVID LEE CHILD, Assistant Editor.

VOLUME III.—NO. 38. | NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1843. | WHOLE NUMBER 142.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY,
BY THE
AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY,
At 143, Nassau Street, New-York.

☞ All remittances, and letters relating to the pecuniary concerns of the paper, should be addressed to ISAAC T. HOPPER.

☞ Letters relating to the editorial department should be addressed to L. MARIA CHILD.

TERMS.—$2,00 a year, in advance; $2,50 if not paid within six months.

☞ $10,00, in advance, will pay for SIX copies for one year, sent to one address.

☞ TWENTY copies, or more, will be sent to one address, at $1,50 each.

☞ Subscribers can remit money without expense by observing the following rule of the Post Office Department:—"A Postmaster may enclose money in a letter to the publisher of a newspaper, to pay the subscription of a third person, and frank the letter, if written by himself."

H. M. HENRY, PRINTER.

Selections.

From the Albany Evening Journal.

SPEECH OF HON. WILLIS HALL.

In the Assembly of New-York, on his motion to instruct the Attorney-General to test the constitutionality of the Virginia Inspection Law, by a suit in the United States Supreme Court. January 31.

Mr. W. Hall called for the consideration of a resolution submitted by him on a previous day; which was read, as follows:

Resolved, That the Attorney-General be directed, at the expense of the State, to institute and conduct in the name and on the complaint of any citizen of this State, who has been aggrieved by the operation of the inspection law of Virginia one or more suits, actions, or prosecutions, for the purpose of testing the constitutionality of said law of Virginia.

Mr. W. Hall said the resolution was of such a character, as of itself to excuse him for pressing it as he now did. Unlike other matters which occupied our attention, this was one of immediate, practical application—for it was not unknown to members, that at this moment citizens of this State were suffering under exactions which were hostile to the Constitution, hostile to the amicable spirit of the Union under which the States were united; grievous to individuals who had to bear them, and insulting to the honor of the State. On this occasion, with more than ordinary feeling, he craved the indulgence of the House. He should endeavor, in discussing it, to speak calmly, and without passion—confining himself mainly to a plain, simple statement of facts. It was a question which interested all—not one in which party feeling was necessarily involved. He asked, for the few remarks he should make, the calm consideration of every member, no matter what his political views. He asked their attention, not as a partisan, but as a son of New-York, having her honor nearest and dearest to his heart.

Sir, said Mr. Hall, this obnoxious law was passed avowedly as an act of retaliation, for the refusal of the executive of this State to surrender three persons alledged to be fugitives from the justice of Virginia. Protesting, as I do, that whether this refusal was just or unjust, it furnished no justification, no excuse for this law of Virginia, I proceed, not with a metaphysical argument, but with a plain statement of the facts, that each member may decide for himself whether New-York, or her executive, has done aught to call for this hostile act, on the part of Virginia. In the summer of 1839, a slave was discovered on board the Robert Center, then lying in the port of New-York; he was reclaimed, and without hindrance, though in defiance of a law of this State, taken by his owner to Virginia. Notwithstanding this, the governor of Virginia thought it necessary to pursue the matter further. He sent a requisition, demanding that the three persons, comprising the whole crew of the Robert Center, should be surrendered to Virginia, on a charge of having stolen the slave, who had already been handed over to his master or owner. Before the executive had time to act on the requisition, these three men, who resided in New-York, having been thrown into prison, were brought before the recorder, on a habeas corpus; and on a full examination of all the facts, not only of those capable of proof, but of those which it was rumored might have been proved, the recorder discharged these men, on the ground that there was no evidence that they had violated any law, either of New-York or Virginia. The executive of this State refused to surrender these men, on the broad ground that they were guilty of no crime. He added, also, as a reason of his refusal, that though it were proved that they had stolen a slave, yet he could not recognize that as a crime. But I did not intend to discuss that question now, as it does not necessarily arise out of the case. I shall confine myself to the simple facts, which will show that the demand of a surrender is absurd. The only evidence on which the requisition was based, is to be found in the affidavit attached to it:

Norfolk Borough, to wit:—This day personally appeared before me, M. King, a justice of the peace, of the borough aforesaid, State of Virginia, John G. Colley, of said borough, and made oath that, on or about the 15th instant, Peter Johnson, Edward Smith, and Isaac Gansey, now attached to the schooner Robert Center, at present in New-York, did *feloniously steal* and take from the said Colley, a certain negro slave, named Isaac, the property of said Colley.

Given under my hand and seal, this 22d day of July, 1839. [L. s.] M. KING, *Mayor, and J. P.*

This affidavit is on its face fatally defective. The language of the Constitution is, "A person charged in any State with treason, felony, or *other crime*, who shall *flee from justice*, and be *found in another State*, shall, on demand of the executive authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having jurisdiction of the crime." By the terms of this provision, three things are necessary to authorize a demand, or require a surrender:

1. That a crime should have been committed in the State making the demand.

2. That the criminal should have fled from the justice of that State.

3. That he should have been found in the State on which the demand is made.

As these three things are essential to establish the obligation of surrender, the governor, on whom the demand is made, has a right to be satisfied of their existence. The affidavit which accompanied this requisition of Virginia, gives no such information.

1. It does not show that *any crime* had been committed.

2. It does not show that any crime had been committed *in Virginia*.

3. It does not show that the persons demanded were fugitives from justice.

Not a word is said in the affidavit, as to these persons having fled from justice; not a word is said, from which it can be inferred where the offense was committed, whether in Virginia, or Maryland, or in any other State. As to the evidence furnished, that a crime had been committed, the affidavit states that "they stole and took away his slave." But this amounts to nothing; for *theft* is a conclusion of law, to which it is not competent for a witness to swear. The witness swears to *facts*; and it is the business of the court or magistrate to draw conclusions whether such facts constitute the crime of theft or not. This is so plain and well known a principle of law, that probably there is not a justice of the peace in the State, who would bind over a man accused of petty larceny, on such evidence. The law of the United States, passed 1793, regulating the manner of demanding and of surrendering fugitives from justice, declares that the crime may be charged by indictment or by affidavit before a magistrate. The first charges a conclusion of law, but it is by a grand jury, acting under advice, and the solemnity of their oaths, and drawn from the testimony of witnesses examined before them under oath; but it was never intended to give to the opinion of an unknown and irresponsible witness, on a point of law, the power to set two States in motion. It is too absurd to admit of discussion. I put it to the House whether an affidavit of this character ought to be considered sufficient to compel an executive to surrender up citizens of this State. No, sir; the evidence is utterly and totally defective.

Before the executive had an opportunity to act on the requisition, being absent from the city when it was received, the case was brought before the recorder of the city of New-York, and the accused were discharged, for want of evidence against them. Six or seven weeks after this discharge, and after Governor Seward's first letter, the recorder wrote to Governor Seward a statement of all the evidence in the case. This letter is a most material fact in the case, and I ask for it the especial attention of the House:

THE RECORDER OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, TO THE GOVERNOR.

To his Excellency, Governor Seward:

DEAR SIR—In the case of the three colored men, Isaac Gansey, Peter Johnson, and Edward Smith, upon *habeas corpus*, who were discharged by me from imprisonment in July or August last, the facts, as they appeared before me, were as follows:

The keeper of the prison returned that he had detained the prisoners by virtue of a warrant of one of our police magistrates. This warrant charged them with being fugitives from justice, from the State of Virginia.

The testimony upon which the warrant issued, was affidavits swearing to the legal conclusion that they were "fugitives from justice." It was also shown, that a requisition from the executive of Virginia had been forwarded to the governor of this State, demanding that the prisoners should be delivered up to the authorities of Virginia.

I then examined, upon oath, two gentlemen from Virginia, who were present. One of them was the agent of the owner of the negro who was alledged to have been stolen, and the other assisted in retaking the slave. By reference to the papers before you in this case, you will observe that one or both of these gentlemen made the affidavits upon which the complaint was made in Virginia against the three persons claimed to be fugitives.

These gentlemen proved that the slave was a ship carpenter, employed in Virginia in repairing the schooner on board of which the three prisoners were hands; that after the schooner sailed, the slave was not to be found; that they by express reached the harbor of New-York before the schooner arrived; that they went on board the schooner, and made known to the captain their suspicions that the slave was concealed on board. The captain denied all knowledge of the slave's being on board, and assisted in making search for the slave. The slave was found on board, concealed amongst the live oak timber. The three prisoners were the only colored persons on board.

This was all that these gentlemen could testify to, of their own knowledge, to show that the three men had stolen the slave. As the question involved much feeling, I permitted the gentlemen to prove what had been told to them by others. One or both the gentlemen testified that the slave informed them that *one of the prisoners observed to him*, (the slave,) *that he was foolish to remain in Virginia, as he could get good wages North*; and that this suggestion induced him to run away, and secrete himself on board the vessel.

This was all that they pretended could be proved by any one else, that showed any participation on the part of any of the prisoners in the escape of the slave.

I permitted this kind of evidence, not as testimony in the case, but to learn whether there was any testimony in Virginia or elsewhere, that could implicate the prisoners in the charge preferred, and also to learn what reliance could be placed on affidavits, swearing to legal conclusions.

I was satisfied that, according to the testimony, neither of the prisoners had committed an offense even against the law of Virginia; and that the testimony was not such as to authorize the detention of the prisoners. I, therefore, discharged them.

I owe your excellency an apology for not sooner answering your letter. Sickness in my family, and constant official occupation, have been the causes.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT H. MORRIS,
Recorder of the city of New-York.

This letter, sir, was immediately enclosed by Governor Seward to the Governor of Virginia; and the latter, in his subsequent letters to Governor Seward, acquiesced, in silence, in the state of facts there presented. In a subsequent letter to the governor of Virginia, Governor Seward referred to this letter with emphasis, and again the governor of Virginia acquiesced, in silence, in the truth of the facts.

This, sir, changes the whole question. From the moment that the executive of Virginia admitted these facts to be true, the case assumed a totally different character. It stood now as if these facts had been incorporated in the original affidavit, where they should have been incorporated; and the question now was, whether if the affidavit on which the requisition was based, had stated these facts developed by the recorder, the governor of Virginia would have made the requisition; and if he had dared to make it on such facts, whether it was the duty of the executive of New-York to have surrendered these men. No, sir, it was not. It appeared, from the recorder's letter, that these three men were sailors on board this vessel, having no control over the cargo or passengers who were to be admitted on board; that not more than one, if any, was implicated; that this one was said to have advised the slave that he could get better wages in New-York; and if this advice was to be considered a crime, he, asked if it was not unheard-of that the whole three should be scooped up at once and placed before the bar of Virginia? Why, the governor of Virginia might as well ask for the surrender of all the citizens of New-York, because one of their number had been guilty of an offense. If these facts had been stated in the original affidavit, and the requisition had been complied with by Governor Seward, he asked—not if he would not have been justified—but if that House would not have impeached him? Or should we take ground here that the governor had no discretion; that he must not look aside of the record; that he was to obey orders without inquiry? Was that the doctrine?

Is this high act of courtesy between sovereign States to be construed like a magistrate's mandate to a constable? The provision of the Constitution has its origin in the courtesy of nations; and its object is to prevent crime, and to cement more perfectly our glorious Union. Will these great objects be promoted by converting it into an absolute command, directed by a superior to an inferior, which admits not of doubt, or discretion, or inquiry; which exacts rigorous and implicit obedience, without delay or question; although it may manifestly appear to the executive, on whom the demand is made, that the requisition is made on ignorance, or mistake, or perjury?

Sir, it is a terrible power—despotic in its nature—scarcely less so than the odious *lettres du cachet*, which stimulated France to raze the Bastile to its foundations, and gave birth to her fearful and bloody revolution. It seizes a citizen, secretly and silently, tears him from his family and his friends, unheard; hurries him in ignominious chains to a distant State, among strangers; and thrusts him, guilty or innocent, into prison, to await his trial. For how, among strangers, resting under an accusation of crime, is he to procure sureties for his appearance? It is a power which has no analogy in any other feature in our free institutions. It is an execution at once upon a man's reputation, his property, and his liberty. He is tried unheard, he is convicted unheard; he is doomed to inevitable ruin, without having an opportunity of meeting his accuser, or of challenging or examining witnesses, or even of opening his lips in defense. And when at length an innocent man, thus torn by an executive warrant from his home and his business, and dragged away to a distant State, is discharged, and turned penniless among strangers into the streets, what is his redress? Can he sue the governor, who has thus wrongfully demanded him? No. Can he sue that State? No. Can he sue his prosecutor? No. Will his own State make him amends, or redress his wrongs? No. A houseless outcast, in a distant land, he has no resource but to beg his way back to his wretched family and desolate home. Sir, can your executive be too cautious in exercising this tremendous power? Would he not be justly liable to the severest censure, did he not, when a doubt exists, insist upon clear evidence, before he issues that warrant whose execution almost equally involves the ruin of the accused, whether guilty or innocent?

The power is a salutary, but a most delicate and dangerous one; and unless used in perfect good faith, and in the liberal spirit of amity in which it originated, the people will not endure it. They will soon eradicate it from their Constitution.

Sir, this is not a power made to be used on light or trivial occasions. It has not been the practice of your executive heretofore to issue or to obey requisitions for misdemeanors and minor offenses. The laws of no State in the Union affix to such offenses a punishment so great as would be the execution of the executive warrant for surrender. Nor will the doctrine be endured for a moment, in this free land, that the executive, on whom a demand is made, can exercise no discretion—that he can, in no case, look beyond the accompanying affidavit or indictment.

Suppose, sir, a requisition is made, accompanied with the usual affidavits, and your executive happens to personally *know* that the accused is not guilty; must he surrender him? Malice and revenge have combined with perjury to put in motion the executive arm of a sister State, to crush their victim in this. Shall your executive knowingly become an instrument of the horrid conspiracy?

An editor of one of your newspapers publishes a libel against some one in Virginia, and sends his paper containing it to a subscriber in that State. It is a crime in Virginia. He is demanded. Shall he be surrendered? Or an inflammatory pamphlet is sent, by one of our citizens—it is a crime. The offender is demanded. Shall he be surrendered? No, it is answered; he is not a fugitive from justice. Neither were the three men, the refusal to surrender whom has given such offense, fugitives from justice. They were sailors, attached to a vessel, and left Virginia with the vessel, in the regular discharge of their business and their duties.

Again, sir, the law, the violation of which is complained of, may be manifestly unconstitutional and void. Virginia may pass an *ex post facto* law, declaring that all the clerks in the bank at Richmond, at the time of the late defalcations, shall be deemed guilty of a felony. One of them may have become a resident citizen of this State. He is demanded. The requisition is accompanied with an indictment, made out in due form. Shall the executive, knowing all the facts, surrender him? No, it is answered; because the law is clearly void, and there can be no *crime* against a void law. That, sir, is precisely this case. The law against which it is alledged these three sailors offended, is a void law. It is as follows:

"Whoever shall hereafter carry, or cause to be carried, any slave or slaves out of any county or corporation within the same, without the consent of the owner or owners of such slaves, or of the guardian of such owner or owners, if he, she, or they be a minor or minors, and with the intention to defraud or deprive such owner or owners of such slave or slaves, shall be adjudged guilty of felony, and subject to prosecution as in other cases of felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by fine not less than one hundred, nor more than five hundred dollars, and shall also be imprisoned in the jail or penitentiary house for a period not less than two, nor more than four years, which fine and imprisonment shall be fixed and ascertained by a jury."

And it is further enacted—

"That not only all those who shall *willingly* and *designedly* carry away slaves as aforesaid, but all masters of vessels, who, having a slave or slaves on board their vessel, and shall sail beyond the limits of any county with such slave or slaves on board, shall be considered as carrying off or removing such slave or slaves within the meaning of this act."

This monstrous law declares that an act done in ignorance, without design or intent, even an *involuntary* act shall be a *crime!* Sir, it is impossible. It is not in the power of man to make that a crime which, by the laws of God and our nature, is innocent. Without *intent* there can be no crime. An *involuntary crime* is a contradiction in terms. You might as well indict the destructive elements. The law is void, not because it violates any particular provision of the Constitution, it goes deeper—it attacks the foundation on which the Constitution rests—the foundations on which all law, on which society itself, is based. It confounds guilt and innocence. It prostrates the eternal rule of right and wrong which God himself has established. Sir, it is no new doctrine that such laws are absolutely void. The most eminent authorities have so declared, and their decisions have been approved in your highest courts. Shall your executive be *compelled* to surrender your citizens to be punished under such a law with four years' imprisonment, for an act, if done at all, done without knowledge, intent, or volition! God forbid!

But, sir, on this question of the obligation to surrender without discretion, I hold in my hand a very interesting document. It is the opinion of the attorney-general of Virginia, given in 1791. It may be found, together with the whole case on which it was given, in the first volume American State papers, entitled "Miscellanies," p. 38. Sir, this is a rich document, and, in view of the arrogant airs assumed by Virginia, and the violent course she has pursued in this controversy, it will be read with astonishment by the whole House. In 1788, three men, named Francis McGuire, Baldwin Parsons, and Absalom Welles, violently seized a negro man, said to be free, in Pennsylvania, and fled with him to Virginia. In 1791, an indictment was found against these men in Pennsylvania, for this gross violation of her laws, on the prosecution of "The Incorporated Society for the gradual abolition of Slavery." This indictment, accompanied with a full and minute statement of the facts, was sent by the governor of Pennsylvania to the governor of Virginia, together with a requisition for the surrender of the three fugitives. Here is a case, in which Virginia was defendant, wonderfully parallel, in every particular, to the case in which she is now plaintiff; except that it was more aggravated than the present case, taking her own view of it. The same provision existed in the Constitution—the same obligation rested on the States then, as now. Let Virginia, as defendant, decide for Virginia, as plaintiff. What did she do? Did she surrender the fugitives? No, sir; she refused to obey the requisition. The governor sent the papers to the attorney-general, who gave it as his opinion, that the governor was not bound to comply with the requisition. I will read a portion of his opinion: "A charge, in the sense used in the Constitution, must be such an accusation as of itself furnishes a sufficient evidence of guilt to put the accused upon his trial, or to justify his immediate punishment. It cannot be an accusation founded on a mere suspicion; it must be founded on some judicial act. In this respect, the demand sent on by the governor of Pennsylvania may be proper, if the crime stated in the bills of indictment are sufficient to fall within the provision of the general government. It is not either treason or felony, (for the indictments state the taking away of the negro to have been done *violently*, and not *feloniously*,) and *other crimes* must be confined to such as the State making the demand possesses an exclusive jurisdiction over. For, if either the federal court, or the courts of the State into which the offenders may take refuge, are authorized to punish the offenders, there is no danger of an escape from justice, and no reason for a demand. The delivery and removal are only to be made for the sake of a proper jurisdiction; and therefore neither can be required from a jurisdiction that is proper. There must be a defect in the jurisdiction of the State in which the demand is made, and an exclusive jurisdiction in the State making the demand.

"The case stated in the indictment transmitted by Governor Mifflin, would amount to but a trespass by our laws, as between the parties—as between the offenders and the commonwealth, but to a breach of the peace. In the first instance, the remedy follows the persons of the offenders into our State, and there is no defect of jurisdiction here. In the latter case the offenders may appear, by attorney, to the indictment. If they should be acquitted, there can be no occasion for the demand. If found guilty, and their personal presence should be found necessary for their punishment, it will be then time enough to make demand of them. I presume, in these respects, the laws of Pennsylvania are assimilated to our own. If they are, then the offenses stated do not appear to me to come within the description of crimes contained in the above cited section of the Constitution."

If this was a sufficient reason for a refusal to surrender in that case, it is equally valid in this.

The attorney-general proceeds to give other reasons—one is, that the accompanying proofs that the fugitives were within the State of Virginia, was not satisfactory. But the proof on that point was as definite in that case as in this. Another reason given was, that there was no law of the State, or of the United States, pointing out the manner in which the surrender should be made. The United States law of 1793 was subsequently passed, to obviate this objection. But it is obvious that this law, although it might remove doubts and inconveniences as to the mere *manner* of making the surrender, could add nothing to the power or obligation contained in and conferred by the provision in the Constitution.

The case was afterwards submitted, by the governor of Pennsylvania, to the President of the United States, who referred it to the attorney-general of the United States. The attorney-general was Edmund Randolph, a distinguished son of Virginia.

He does not agree with the attorney-general of Virginia, that further legislation is necessary to prescribe the manner of the demand and surrender. But he unites in the opinion, that the governor of Virginia was not bound to make the surrender in that case, because the proof was not sufficient that the persons demanded were fugitives from justice, or were found in Virginia.

But, sir, I call the especial attention of the House to one position taken by him in the course of his argument, which covers the whole ground we contend for. He says, "The governor of Virginia is bound for the just use of his *discretion*, and if he should yield to informal evidence, he must yield at his peril."

Such, sir, were the opinions of Virginia, and of Virginia statesmen, in her golden age. They sound more like the sentiments of freedom, than those which have more recently been exhibited.

Now, sir, viewing the facts of this case as they appear in the documents which I have read, by the light of the arguments of the Virginia lawyers in their own case, was there not at least ground for *a reasonable doubt* in the minds of your executive, whether he could be justified in surrendering three of our citizens to the demand of Virginia? If there was doubt, there was no just cause of offense. A doubt is always to be given in favor of liberty. To deprive three of our citizens of their liberty upon a doubt, would be good cause of impeachment. To say the most, it was a case for the judiciary, and might have been amicably adjusted, like the recent analagous case between Pennsylvania and Maryland. When a similar requisition of Pennsylvania was resisted, a friendly issue was formed, and the verdict of a jury taken as to the facts, and the whole submitted to the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States.

But the executive of Virginia chose to take a threatening attitude, and pursue a hostile course. He first addresses a circular letter, not to all the associated sister States, but exclusively to the *slaveholding States*, exciting sectional prejudices, and combining sectional interests, and hinting at measures of retaliation.

Next, the legislature of Virginia pass the unconstitutional and insulting law of 1840.

The title of the law is as follows:

"*An act to prevent* THE CITIZENS OF NEW-YORK *from carrying slaves out of this commonwealth, and to prevent the escape of persons charged with the commission of any crime.*

"§ 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly*, That it shall not be lawful for any vessel, of any size or description, owned in whole or in part, or commanded or navigated by any citizen or resident of *the State of New-York*, or any such vessel owned in whole or in part, or commanded or navigated by any other person than an actual inhabitant and resident of this commonwealth, and departing from any port in this State for any port in the State of New-York to depart from this commonwealth, or out of any bay, river, creek, or other watercourse of this State until said vessel has *undergone the inspection* provided for in this act, and until the other provisions hereof shall have been complied with. Provided, that nothing herein contained shall apply to any foreign or national vessel."

The second section provides that no such vessel shall sail from any port in that State until the inspector shall have searched it, and given a certificate of inspection to the master; and that if the provision is violated, the captain or *owner* shall pay a fine of five hundred dollars, to be recovered by *indictment*, information, or action of debt.

The third section provides, that any vessel owned in whole or in part, or commanded or navigated by any citizen or resident of New-York, which shall come into Virginia, no matter *from what place*, or *to what place bound*, shall give a bond in the penalty of one thousand dollars, with two *inhabitants of Virginia* as sureties, not to violate any of the provisions of the act, and to pay all damages which she may occasion, &c. If unable to give security, the captain shall deposit the ship's papers with the inspector, and make affidavit that the vessel shall not depart without inspection. If the captain neglect to comply, the vessel is to be taken possession of by the inspector or a *police officer*, and held until she is ready to depart, when she is to be delivered up to the captain, on his paying the said police officer three dollars a day for the time he kept possession.

The eighth section provides that ten dollars shall be paid for the inspection, together with all costs and charges, and that the vessel shall be held liable for the same.

Section ninth gives the inspector power, on *suspicion* of resistance, to call out the power of the county.

Section eleventh places the *onus probandi* upon the master who denies that he is a citizen or resident of the State of New-York.

The last section declares that the act shall take effect on the first of May, 1842; "but that the governor of this commonwealth may, by proclamation, suspend the operation of the same until the end of the succeeding session of the legislature of this State, whenever he shall be *officially* informed that *the executive of New-York shall have, bona fide, consented* TO COMPLY WITH THE DEMAND *of the executive of this State* for the surrender of Peter Johnson, Edward Smith, and Isaac Gansey, as fugitives from justice, and that *the law of New-York of the sixth of May*, 1842, *entitled*, "*An act* to extend the right of trial by jury, HAS BEEN REPEALED BY THAT STATE."

This, sir, is the substance of that injurious law, dictated in a spirit of arrogant hostility, and intended to coerce New-York into a submission to Virginia. A similar law has been passed by South Carolina, and the example will soon be followed by all the slaveholding States.

Our commerce with those southern ports is extensive and valuable. If they can exact a penalty of ten dollars, they can, by the same principle, exact a penalty of ten thousand. Our whole southern commerce is at their mercy. What is to be done? Shall we yield to the conditions prescribed to us as to a captured enemy? Shall the governor *officially consent* to surrender the fugitives? *Will* he do it? How shall he word the communication? How shall he express his humiliation, and the abasement of his State? In what manner shall he put on his sackcloth? How shall he heap the ashes on his head? Sir, there are no words in the language, which will not make the ink red with shame, in which the degradation is communicated.

Or, sir, shall this legislature repeal the jury law? That, too, is impossible. If the law is unconstitutional, it is void, and needs no repeal; if it is constitutional, we had a right to pass it, and no State on earth can justly call us in question for exercising that right. Virginia tells us our law is unconstitutional, too clearly so to admit of debate; we are told, a recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States has declared a similar law of Pennsylvania unconstitutional. If so, why ask us to repeal it? It is a nugatory act. It has not been the practice of this State, heretofore, to repeal laws which have been declared unconstitutional. Repeated instances have occurred, of laws pronounced unconstitutional, by the Supreme Court of the United States, and by the highest court of this State; yet in no case has the legislature been called upon to repeal the law or deface the record. The law becomes instantly inoperative and dead, by the decision of the court. Why, then, call upon us, in this imperious manner, to do a useless act? It can be only the more to signalize, by a public proclamation, before the whole world, our humiliation—our submission!

If Virginia, confident of the justice of her course, wishes to put an end to this law, why does she not take the usual and appointed course of bringing it before the Supreme Court of the United States? The delay is no objection—the law has been in force nearly three years, and within my knowledge, not a single case has occurred under it. If the law is repealed, it may be revived again; but if it is declared to be unconstitutional, there is an end of it for ever. The people of this State are no *nullifiers;* they love and cherish the Union, and have always most punctiliously performed all the obligations it imposes. In more than one instance, laws, involving deep interests, have been declared void by the federal court, and the decision has been acquiesced in without a murmur. But nothing, it seems, will satisfy the chivalry of Virginia, but to force us to swallow our own laws. She threatens us. She is exercising upon our vessels the odious RIGHT OF SEARCH—an aggression for which we demanded war upon England, and cheerfully lavished our blood and treasure to vindicate our rights and protect our commerce from this invasion. The weight of that war fell upon us; it crimsoned our frontiers. Yet we felt it a cheap purchase—a glorious sacrifice, which freed us from this badge of subjugation. And is it a *sister State* which now deliberately inflicts upon us a similar insult? And do we submit to it without remonstrance, and meanly offer to purchase immunity by submission?

No, sir, the position in which Virginia has placed us, renders it *impossible* for us to repeal the jury law. She makes a demand, accompanied with a threat of punishment. If she is right, we yield to the smart of the lash that which we refused to justice. If she is wrong, we tamely surrender our just rights under coercion, and bind ourselves slaves.

Sir, I know of but one course which the sacred obligations of the Union, and a proper sense of self-respect have left to us, and that is, to present this oppressive inspection law of Virginia to the great tribunal which the Constitution has provided. If it is declared to be constitutional, we must submit to it as best we may. If it is declared to be in violation of the Constitution, Virginia will cease to execute a law which is inconsistent with the harmony of the Union, of her devotion to which she boasts so loudly.

THAT "CASE IN POINT."

The Albany Argus (democratic) makes the following remarks on the case cited in Mr. Hall's speech, as reported above:

Mr. Willis Hall's notable "case in point," which was so triumphantly characterized as "Virginia defendant, vs. Virginia, plaintiff," by the late attorney-general, is set forth at length in his reported speech.

According to the Evening Journal, the case was this: "Pennsylvania demanded of Virginia the surrender of three men, charged with stealing a slave in the former State; which demand was resisted by Virginia, on the ground that the offense charged was not a crime within the meaning of the Constitution of the United States."

Mr. Hall, on the contrary, in his published speech, says the case was that of three men who "violently (not feloniously) seized a negro man, said to be *free*, in Pennsylvania, and fled with him to Virginia; and that a requisition followed, accompanied by an indictment, and a minute statement of the facts; and that Virginia refused to obey the requisition, not on the ground that the stealing of a slave was not a crime within the meaning of the Constitution, (for no such stealing or felony was charged, nor could it have been charged, for it was not pretended that the person seized was a slave,) but because "*the proof was not sufficient* that the persons demanded were fugitives from justice, *or were found in Virginia.*"

How far this notable case is parallel to the case in hand—a case where all defects of proof were expressly waived, the "door of informality closed"—and the ground taken that the stealing of a slave is not a crime within the meaning of the Constitution—the people will judge.

The Albany Evening Journal (whig) thus comments on the ground taken by the Argus, concerning the "point" in Mr. Hall's speech:

"*Not a case in point.*"—The Argus insists that the case cited by Mr. Hall, where Virginia refused to deliver up, on the demand of Pennsylvania, three men charged with kidnapping, is not to the point. "It was not a case of *slave stealing*, to begin with," says the Argus. "It was a *simple case* of kidnapping, or abduction; *the victim was, a freeman of Pennsylvania, taken to Virginia, and then reduced to slavery!*" And this, we are told, is not a *case* in point. Virginia was *right* in refusing to surrender three men who had kidnapped a freeman of Pennsylvania, and *sold him into slavery;* but New-York was wrong in declining to give up three of her citizens who were charged with stealing a slave, and *giving him his liberty!* What do our readers think of this distinction? What say the people of New-York to this extraordinary proposition? Is it a crime under the Constitution to assist a fellow-creature in escaping out of bondage? and is it *not* a crime to steal a fellow-creature for the purpose of selling him into slavery? Can Virginia kidnap, and reduce to slavery, the free citizens of Pennsylvania, and be held guiltless? and must New-York, for defending three of her citizens charged with the offense of harboring a fugitive slave, be denounced as faithless to the federal compact? Is the stealing of a slave a less heinous offense than the abduction of a freeman? Is it less a crime to set a slave free, than to sell a freeman into slavery? Such would seem to be the doctrine set up by the Argus; but such, assuredly, is not the belief of the people of New-York.

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

Daniel Webster's Opinion concerning the annexation of Texas. Extracted from a speech delivered at Niblo's saloon, in New-York, March, 1837.

Gentlemen, proposing to express opinions on the principal subjects of interest, at the present moment, it is impossible to overlook the delicate question, which has arisen, from events which have happened in the late Mexican province of Texas. The independence of that province has now been recognized by the government of the United States. The Congress gave the President the means, to be used when he saw fit, of opening a diplomatic intercourse with its government, and the late President immediately made use of those means.

I saw no objection, under the circumstances, to voting an appropriation to be used when the President should think the proper time had come; and he deemed, certainly very promptly, that the time had already arrived. Certainly, gentlemen, the history of Texas is not a little wonderful. A very few people, in a very short time, have established a government for themselves, against the authority of the parent State; and which government, it is generally supposed, there is little probability at the present moment of the parent State being able to overturn.

This government is, in form, a copy of our own. It is an American constitution, substantially after the great American model. We all, therefore, must wish it success; and there is no one who will more heartily rejoice than I shall, to see an independent community, intelligent, industrious, and friendly towards us, springing up, and rising into happiness, distinction, and power, upon our own principles of liberty and government.

But it cannot be disguised, gentlemen, that a desire, or an intention, is already manifested to annex Texas to the United States. On a subject of such mighty magnitude as this, and at a moment when the public attention is drawn to it, I should feel myself wanting in candor, if I did not express my opinion; since all must suppose, that on such a question, it is impossible I should be without some opinion.

I say, then, gentlemen, in all frankness, that I see objections, I think insurmountable objections, to the annexation of Texas to the United States. When the Constitution was formed, it is not probable that either its framers, or the people, ever looked to the admission of any States into the Union, except such as then already existed, and such as should be formed out of territories then already belonging to the United States. Fifteen years after the adoption of the Constitution, however, the case of Louisiana arose. Louisiana was obtained by treaty with France; who had recently obtained it from Spain; but the object of this acquisition, certainly, was not mere extension of territory. Other great political interests were connected with it. Spain, while she possessed Louisiana, had held the mouths of the great rivers which rise in the western States, and flow into the Gulf of Mexico. She had disputed our use of these rivers, already; and with a powerful nation in possession of these outlets to the sea, it is obvious that the commerce of all the West was in danger of perpetual vexation. The command of these rivers to the sea, was, therefore, the great object aimed at in the acquisition of Louisiana. But that acquisition necessarily brought territory along with it, and three States now exist, formed out of that ancient province.

A similar policy, and a similar necessity, though perhaps not entirely so urgent, led to the acquisition of Florida.

Now, no such necessity, no such policy, requires the annexation of Texas. The accession of Texas to our territory, is not necessary to the full and complete enjoyment of all which we already possess. Her case, therefore, stands entirely different from that of Louisiana, and Florida. There being, then, no necessity for extending the limits of the Union, in that direction, we ought I think, for numerous and powerful reasons, to be content with our present boundaries.

Gentlemen, we all see, that by whomsoever possessed, Texas is likely to be a slaveholding country; and I frankly avow my entire unwillingness to do anything which shall extend the slavery of the African race, on this continent, or add other slaveholding States to the Union. When I say that I regard slavery in itself a great moral, social, and political evil, I only use language which has been adopted by distinguished men, themselves citizens of slaveholding States. I shall do nothing, therefore, to favor or encourage its further extension. We have slavery, already, amongst us. The Constitution found it among us; it recognized it, and gave it solemn guaranties. To the full extent of these guaranties we are all bound, in honor, in justice, and by the Constitution. All the stipulations, contained in the Constitution, in favor of the slaveholding States which are already in the Union, ought to be fulfilled, and so far as depends on me, shall be fulfilled, in the fullness of their spirit, and to the exactness of their letter. Slavery, as it exists in the States, is beyond the reach of Congress. It is a concern of the States themselves; they have never submitted it to Congress, and Congress has no rightful power over it. I shall concur, therefore, in no act, no measure, no menace, no indication of purpose, which shall interfere, or threaten to interfere, with the exclusive authority of the several States, over the subject of slavery, as it exists within their respective limits. All this appears to me to be matter of plain and imperative duty.

But when we come to speak of admitting new States, the subject assumes an entirely different aspect. Our rights and our duties are then both different.

The free States, and all the States, are then at liberty to accept, or to reject. When it is proposed to bring new members, into this political partnership, the old members have a right to say on what terms such new partners are to come in, and what they are to bring along with them. In my opinion, the people of the United States will not consent to bring a new, vastly extensive, and slaveholding country, large enough for half a dozen or a dozen States, into the Union. In my opinion they ought not to consent to it. Indeed, I am altogether at a loss to conceive what possible benefit any part of this country can expect to derive from such annexation. All benefit, to any part, is at least doubtful and uncertain, the objections obvious, plain, and strong. On the general question of slavery, a great portion of the community is already strongly excited. The subject has not only attracted attention as a question of politics, but it has struck a far deeper toned cord. It has arrested the religious feeling of the country; it has taken strong hold on the consciences of men. He is a rash man, indeed, and little conversant with human nature, and especially has he a very erroneous estimate of the character of the people of this country, who supposes that a feeling of this kind is to be trifled with, or despised. It will assuredly cause itself to be respected. It may be reasoned with, it may be made willing, I believe it is entirely willing, to fulfill all existing engagements, and all existing duties, to uphold and defend the Constitution, as it is established, with whatever regrets, about some provisions, which it does actually contain. But, to coerce it into silence,—to endeavor to restrain its free expression, to seek to compress and confine it, warm as it is, and more heated as such endeavors would inevitably render it,—should all this be attempted, I know nothing, even in the Constitution, or in the Union itself, which would not be endangered by the explosion which might follow.

I see, therefore, no political necessity for the annexation of Texas to the Union; no advantages to be derived from it; and objections to it of a strong, and in my judgment, decisive character.

I believe it to be for the interest and happiness of the whole Union, to remain as it is, without diminution and without addition.

From the Boston Courier.

LEVERETT SALTONSTALL AND JOHN Q. ADAMS.

NATICK, Feb. 6th, 1843.

To the Editor of the Courier.—Will you have the kindness to insert in your columns the following correspondence? I trust that the letter of Mr. Saltonstall will be carefully read. For I am confident that it will tend to disabuse the public mind, in relation to the false impression now prevalent, in regard to the charges which have been so industriously circulated against him, and the last legislature of the State.

Being present on the first day of the meeting of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, I listened to a very able report made by Mr. Edmund Quincy, in which he took occasion to comment very severely upon the dominant party in the last legislature, for not supporting Mr. Adams, when so furiously and bitterly assailed by the slave power at the last session of Congress; at the same time charging them with being influenced, in the course they pursued, by a letter from Mr. Saltonstall, warning them that such an action would endanger the Massachusetts claim-bill. I did not believe that Mr. Saltonstall, or any other member of our delegation, wrote any such letter; and I felt equally certain that the legislature did not shrink from the performance of their duty by any such paltry considerations. I thought so, because I had taken a deep interest in the question of supporting Mr. Adams; and I felt confident that no such letter could have been received, and thus influence the minds of the members without my knowledge.

It may, indeed, be inquired, why the legislature did not adopt resolutions sustaining Mr. Adams? I can state the reasons: at least, those that operated on the minds of some of the members. It was because it was feared that we should have a *party vote;* and such a vote the warmest friends of Mr. Adams feared would do more harm than good. While the question of censure upon the great champion of human rights was pending before the House of Representatives, I felt that we ought to give him our hearty support. After consulting with the chairman

the North against the domineering pretensions of the slave power, I made up my mind to ask leave of the House to introduce the resolutions I had prepared. Before doing it, however, I felt it my duty to consult a gentleman, for whose opinions, on all subjects, I had a great regard—one who might be supposed to feel a deep interest in a question that affected one who stood, to him, in the tender relation of a father—a gentleman, too, that held, I know, correct views upon the subject of slavery, and who has since been selected to present the great Latimer petition to the present legislature. He gave it as his opinion, that it would be better not to act at all; and advised me not to present the resolutions; inasmuch as he had reason to fear, that we should have merely a *party vote*; and that, he thought, would do his father no good. I took his advice, and dropped the subject.

Before the close of the session, Dr. Duggan, of Quincy, offered an order on the subject, which was sent to the committee on the petition of Francis Jackson and others; and that committee, composed of acknowledged friends of the slave, took no action upon the subject. HENRY WILSON.

—

NATICK, January 27, 1843.

Hon. Leverett Saltonstall:

DEAR SIR,—During the past year, it has been stated in several of the public journals, that the reason the legislature of this State, did not pass resolutions sustaining Mr. Adams, when arraigned before the House of Representatives for presenting the Haverhill petition, was, that a member of our delegation wrote home that such action would endanger the passage of the bill, for the payment of the Massachusetts claims. In the annual report of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, made a few days since, this charge is distinctly made; and *you* are designated as the member. I beg of you to inform me whether you ever wrote such a letter, or gave such advice. Yours truly, HENRY WILSON.

—

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31, 1843.

Dear Sir,—Yours of the 27th inst. is received, informing me that in the annual report of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, made a few days since, "it is stated, that the reason why the legislature of Massachusetts did not pass resolutions sustaining Mr. Adams, when arraigned before the House of Representatives for presenting the Haverhill petition, was, that a member of our delegation wrote home, that such action would endanger the passage of the bill for the payment of the Massachusetts claims, and that I am designated as *the member*;" and you request me to inform you whether I ever wrote such a letter, or gave such advice. In reply, I would inform you, that I never did write such a letter, or give such advice. So far from taking part against Mr. Adams in any way, on that occasion, or from shrinking from his support, for the reasons stated, or from any reasons or motives whatever, I sustained him fully and distinctly in the course he had taken, in a speech, which I regret was not published. It was the only one, I believe, delivered in the evening during the session, and owing to some controversy between the officers of the House and the reporters for the "Intelligencer," as to lights for their desks, no report of it was made for that paper. This is mentioned in the Intelligencer of January 29th, 1842. The editors urged me to write it out, but as I had only very few notes, it was impossible for me to report it as it was delivered, and I did not attempt it. A brief account of the speech is given in the Globe of January 28th, closing as follows:—"Mr. Saltonstall then went into a vigorous reply to Mr. Wise, and eloquently defended his venerated colleague, (Mr. Adams,) from the numerous violent charges against him, in the long speech of the gentleman from Virginia." In fact, I tried to get the floor for the purpose of replying to him, from the time he took his seat, until I succeeded. It would be very strange, if, after defending Mr. Adams on the floor of the House, I had written home, advising against any legislative proceedings, and especially for the reasons stated in the report. It never occurred to me, that any course taken by the Massachusetts representatives here, or by the legislature at home, on that occasion, would have any effect on the Massachusetts claim.

Let me also refer you to a correspondence, which will shortly be published in the Atlas, between the whig members of our delegation and Mr. Adams, occasioned by a charge against them in the Emancipator, that they abandoned Mr. Adams, and from which Mr. Adams defended them, expressing his entire satisfaction with their course.

The whig members, and I believe all the members of the Massachusetts delegation in Congress, have stood by Mr. Adams, at all times, in his great and noble efforts as to the right of petition, and I may add, that we have voted on that, and upon all questions connected with it, as the anti-slavery party would themselves have done.

It is hardly necessary for me to add, that I have not written for the purpose, or with the expectation of gaining the support of the *anti-slavery political party*, for myself or any of my colleagues, but to defend myself against a groundless charge, and to save my colleagues here, and our friends at home, from the prejudice and injury which the accusation might otherwise occasion.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
LEVERETT SALTONSTALL.

To HENRY WILSON, esq. Natick.

—

THE CASE OF MR. SALTONSTALL.

To the Editor of the Boston Courier:

At the session of the Massachusetts legislature, held a year since, during the time that Mr. Adams was defending himself in Congress from the assaults of Mr. Marshall and others, Dr. Duggan, of Quincy, offered an order, instructing a committee to bring in resolutions, expressing their indignation at the arbitrary course adopted by Congress, and their sympathy with Mr. Adams.

That committee never reported on the above order. Much surprise and disappointment were consequently felt, till, at last, in explanation of their extraordinary silence, it was stated in several newspapers, (your own, among others,) that the Hon. Leverett Saltonstall had, (as was asserted,) written a letter from Washington to a friend in the Massachusetts legislature, advising against the passage of resolutions of the character contemplated; on the ground that they would affect the prospect of payment, by Congress, of the Massachusetts claim; and I was named as authority for the statement.

The charge against Mr. Saltonstall *by name* has stood before the public, for nearly a year. Until now, I have not thought it necessary to produce the evidence of it, because I have never seen any public denial by Mr. Saltonstall. In your paper of Thursday last, however, I see a letter from him to Mr. Wilson, of Natick, in which, as I understand him he fully denies the statement in question. I now, therefore, feel myself called on to state the facts, in detail.

On the evening of February 17, 1842, I was at a large party, at the house of Samuel A. Elliot, esq. During the evening, Joshua H. Ward, esq. of Salem, a very intimate personal friend of Mr. Saltonstall, and a member of the legislature, George C. Crowninshield, esq. a very respectable gentleman of this city, and myself were in conversation in the refreshment room, adjoining the ball room. Suddenly, Mr. Crowninshield, said to Mr. Ward, "By the bye, Ward, what are you going to do in the legislature, about Mr. Adams? I am becoming somewhat of an abolitionist, in my old age; I think we ought to give some demonstrations of our approval of his course in Congress." "I think so, too," replied Mr. Ward, "but I fear we shall do nothing; for a letter has been received, (or, I have received a letter,) today, from Mr. Saltonstall, telling us to beware of passing any resolutions very strongly favoring the old gentleman; for, if we do, we shall lose our Massachusetts claim. Mr. Preston, of South Carolina, is about to bring a bill into the Senate in favor of them, and if strong measures are adopted in reference to Mr. Adams, the bill will be lost."

I uttered an exclamation of surprise, and Mr. Crowninshield answered, in tones of astonishment, nearly in the following terms: "That is too bad, to sell our birthright for a mess of pottage! These southerners ought to be told that we will submit no longer; we have got to meet the question some time, and the sooner we do so the better."

The above is the substance of what was said, and very nearly if not exactly, the expressions used. Mr. Ward mentioned the facts with perfect openness, and did not seem to wish concealment. Several persons were near at the time, and might have heard the words. Thinking it important to the country that it should be known, who, in the high places, were faithless to the great principles involved in Mr. Adams's case, I spoke of the remarks I had heard to several friends, through one of whom they found their way into the public papers.

I would state that the above conversation was noted in a diary kept by me at the time, and that on conversing with Mr. Crowninshield upon the subject about a week afterwards, he fully confirmed my record—even to the very expressions of surprise he made use of at the time. I cannot be,—I am not deceived, as to what Mr. Ward asserted.

Knowing the very peculiar relations of intimacy and friendship, in which Mr. Ward stood toward Mr. Saltonstall, it never occurred to me, for a moment, to doubt the fact he had stated. I gave it currency without hesitation; and I must leave to him the responsibility of reconciling it with Mr. Saltonstall's denial.

Mr. Ward has since had one interview, and sundry communications with me, on the subject. I cannot state the purport of this *subsequent* interview, &c. because, he requested me, at the time, to consider them as confidential. I regret that I agreed to any such thing, for I have nothing to conceal. I wrote to him on Thursday last, asking to be relieved from this obligation, so that the public might have all the facts. He, however, renews his injunction of secresy. I shall obey him,—but with this reservation, that if he undertakes to make public any portion of those "confidential" matters, I shall feel myself absolved in regard to the whole.

H. I. BOWDITCH.

Communications.

PROCEEDINGS

Of an Anti-Slavery Convention, held at Bridgewater, Oneida county, N. Y. February 1st and 2d, 1843.

Met at 10 o'clock, A. M. pursuant to call from the Executive Committee of the State Central Society. The meeting being called to order, it was

Resolved, That officers be appointed for the temporary organization of the convention.

Pursuant to which, the following named persons were appointed: Chairman, William Utter; Secretary, Francis A. Utter.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Chaney.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to report names of officers for the permanent organization of the convention.

Mr. Samuel Lightbody, of Utica; Rev. Mr. Holcomb, West Winfield; Mrs. Paulina Wright, Utica; Rev. Mr. Chaney, Unadilla Forks; Mr. Webber, Litchfield; were appointed said committee.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed as a business committee.

Amended, by increasing the number of said committee to seven. The following named persons were appointed: Rev. Mr. Machin, chairman; Miss Abby Kelley, Mr. Francis A. Utter, Rev. Mr. Chaney, Mr. Francis Wright, Rev. Mr. Holcomb, Miss Ann Lightbody.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a committee of two be appointed to act as a roll committee, to procure the names of those who attend the convention.

Messrs. John Bailey and Albert Utter were appointed said committee. It was then

Resolved, That the convention have a recess of thirty minutes.

Afternoon.—The convention met, and was called to order by the chairman. The committee on the selection of officers for the permanent organization of the convention, reported the following:

President—John T. Clark.
Vice-Presidents—Wm. Utter, John Bailey.
Secretaries—Mrs. Paulina Wright, Francis A. Utter.

Who were unanimously chosen the officers of the meeting. The following resolutions were offered by Rev. Mr. Machin, chairman of the committee on business:

Resolved, That the essential ingredients of American slavery are a direct violation of the laws of God, and in opposition to the spirit and letter of the gospel.

This resolution was supported by Mr. Hall, of Utica; Rev. Mr. Allen, of Cassville; and Elder Chaney, of Unadilla Forks.

The question being called on the resolution, it was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That Christianity must necessarily be aggressive upon the kingdom of Satan; and in so doing, must oppose the system of American slavery.

Supported by Mr. Hall, of Utica; Elder Chaney, of Unadilla Forks; Rev. Mr. Machin, of Bridgewater; Rev. Mr. Holcomb, of West Winfield; and Rev. Mr. Allen. Adopted, unanimously.

Resolved, That the prejudices existing in this nation against our darker complexioned countrymen, arise, not from any crime or fault of theirs, or from anything peculiar to their organization; but is the result of the condition into which they have been thrown by their oppressors; in a word, it is the spirit of caste, and is, therefore, unnatural, cruel, and heaven-defying; and cannot be, knowingly, cherished by any Christian or philanthropist.

On motion of Mr. Allen, it was

Resolved, That the resolution appointing the roll committee be reconsidered.

Carried.

On motion of the same gentleman, it was

Resolved, That the reconsideration be laid on the table.

Adjourned to meet at half-past 6 o'clock, P. M.

Evening.—Met pursuant to adjournment. The convention was called to order by the chairman. An anti-slavery song was then sung by Mr. Utter, and Mr. Denison. Miss Kelley occupied most of the evening in speaking on the last resolution offered by the committee, which was unanimously adopted.

On motion of Miss Kelley, it was

Resolved, That this meeting, when it do adjourn, adjourn to meet to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock.

Mr. Holcomb stated to the meeting that it would be inconvenient for him to meet with the business committee in the morning, and nominated Rev. Mr. Allen in his stead, as one of the committee, who was accordingly appointed. Adjourned, to meet agreeably to former resolution.

Second day.—The convention met at half-past 9 o'clock, A. M. Meeting called to order by the chairman. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Chaney.

On suggestion of the chairman, the minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read, and some brief alteration of them suggested by Rev. Mr. Allen.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Machin, the minutes of yesterday's proceedings, as corrected, were adopted.

Mr. Machin, chairman of the business committee, then offered the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, The two great political associations of the land, viz. the whig and democratic, are manifestly pro-slavery, as proved by their opposition to impartial liberty, and their adherence to slaveholding power; regarding the purity, honor, and well being of the country as of less importance than the triumph of their party, and the promotion of their own selfish designs; and whereas, we regard co-operation with them, while they are manifestly governed by such principles, as recreant to liberty; therefore,

Resolved, That we exhort every American citizen to stand utterly aloof from these political organizations, and never cast his vote, nor in any way use his influence, for the elevation of any man to office in this republic, who is not an outspoken and outacting abolitionist.

Resolved, That the signs of the times, and the providences of God, show that the friends of human liberty have every reason to redouble their diligence for its promotion; and also, in view of what has already been accomplished, to indulge the most hopeful confidence in the triumph of this heaven-sanctioned cause.

Miss Kelley supported the second resolution offered by the committee this morning; and offered, as an amendment to it, that the word "speedy" be inserted before the word "triumph." On motion, it was

Resolved, That the resolution, as amended, be adopted.

Mr. Machin, chairman of the business committee, then presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the anti-slavery cause, by the end it seeks to accomplish, being no less than the elevation of the American slave from degradation and bondage, and the restoration of his God-given rights, commends itself to the candid consideration of every lover of his race, and loudly calls for his energy and devotion, to bring it to a speedy termination.

This resolution was adopted, unanimously. The first resolution offered by the committee this morning, was here called up for consideration; and after being supported by Mr. Chaney, Mr. Cushman, Miss Kelley, and others, was unanimously adopted.

The following resolutions were offered by the chairman of the business committee, and were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the measures of the abolitionists to scatter light and truth over our land, by means of the living speaker, and the circulation of books, tracts, and periodicals, are well adapted to secure the ends they seek to accomplish, being in accordance with common sense and sound philosophy, and such measures as have been successfully used by reformers of every age.

Resolved, That the sentiments of Wm. C. Bouck, the present professedly democratic governor of the State of New-York, put forth in his late message, respecting the duty of this State towards the despotic claims of Virginia, and towards the fugitive slave, stamp hypocrisy upon all his professions of democracy; and from the undisguised joy with which that message has been greeted by the southern press, plainly convict him of having betrayed the sacred interests of universal liberty to the ever-watchful demon of slavery.

Resolved, That every American citizen has an influence to exert against slavery, which he cannot refuse to exercise, without proving recreant to his duty as a man, as a republican, and as a Christian.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this convention be signed by its officers, and a copy be forwarded to the "National Anti-Slavery Standard," and the "Liberty Press," for publication; and that all the anti-slavery papers in the State be requested to copy the same.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to our Baptist friends, for the use of their house during the sitting of the convention; and also to the friends in general, for the hospitalities they have kindly afforded to the members of this convention, while they have been in session.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the convention adjourn, without date.

(Signed) JOHN T. CLARK, *President.*

WM. UTTER, JOHN BAILEY, } *Vice-Presidents.*

PAULINA S. WRIGHT, F. A. UTTER, } *Secretaries.*

SLAVE HUNTERS.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 11, 1843.

There appeared in the Philadelphia Ledger, some time since, a paragraph, giving an account of a riot, which it was stated had taken place in Wilkesbarre, among the negroes; and in which the colored people of that place were represented as behaving very badly.

A friend in Port Carbon, not crediting the statement of the Ledger, took the trouble to write to a friend in Wilkesbarre, for a correct statement of the facts. The accompanying is his reply:

—

"In compliance with your request, we very cheerfully give you a brief account of the kidnappers visit to this place.

Last Sabbath week, late in the evening, two fugitives came into our house, and told us slave catchers were in town; that they had searched a colored man's house, on Sunday, and had broken up a meeting of the colored people in Woodville, a mile below town. As soon as they left the house, S—— hastened to the meeting, and gave notice to the slaves; for they were there. They had barely time to escape, when twelve men surrounded the house. The kidnappers were sleepless in their vigilance. They had a colored man in their pay. The nights were light, and they knew the fugitives were in the place. It is said, they had liers in wait on all the roads. Under these circumstances, it was with the utmost difficulty we could make any movement undiscovered. On Tuesday, we learned that forcible entry would be made that night into all the colored people's houses. They were informed of it, and prepared themselves accordingly. Seven men, and eight or nine women, were in the house, when they were attacked. As I understand it, the colored people did not act offensively, till their windows and doors were literally broken to pieces, and two balls had been fired into the house. A ball grazed the lip of one man, and the ear of another. At this moment, a rush from the house was made. The women used boiling water, among other weapons. The men used clubs and stones, and I believe a few pistols were among them. The mob, spectators included, numbering, probably, two hundred, fled, like feathers before the wind. In ten minutes after the sally from the house, there was not a white man to be seen on the ground. One white man had his face peppered with shot, and heavy blows were dealt by both parties. Charles will tell you what an inoffensive, worthy man, Henry Brown is, whose house was torn to pieces. Poor fellow! he had been sick all the fall; and is now just able to crawl about. He received a stroke on his head, which was so serious, that a physician was called to dress it. It is a fact, that seven colored men, and nine women, rushed upon some hundred, or hundred and fifty men, armed with pistols, muskets, rifles, &c. and chased them at full speed. The wicked flee when no man pursueth. The worst of the whole story is yet to be told. A writ was issued against the ringleaders, and put in the hand of the officer. And there it has been since last Wednesday, *unexecuted*. I fear there is not energy enough in the law to punish. At this moment, the court-house bell is ringing, for a meeting of all those who are friends of the Union, and to the rights of the South, and who are willing to unite against the fanatical projects of the abolitionists. I hope, and think, the meeting will publish its own weakness, in the character and numbers of those who attend.

Last Friday, we resolved to make an effort to send the poor, persecuted fugitives beyond the reach of danger. As the roads were so closely watched, and the nights so light, two horse-sleds were obtained, and one fugitive was put in each sled with the driver; making but two men in each sled. They started at two o'clock in the morning. Thus equipped, they passed without suspicion, and are now, we trust, beyond the reach of danger. Yours, for the oppressed, X.

WILKESBARRE, Dec. 19, 1842."

THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

The following letter is to Charles Marriott, from a well known and influential member and minister of the Society.

—

WILLIAMSON, 1st mo. 7th, 1843.

Perhaps thou hast not heard of the disturbance that occurred in Rochester meeting some two weeks since. Jacob Ferris, on his way West, attended that meeting. After a Friend had spoken, Jacob rose, and attempted to speak on the subject of practical Christianity. He had not, as I understand it, proceeded far, before a Friend interrupted him, and requested him to sit down; observing that he had told what was our duty to man, but not to God, &c. The meeting was then informed, by Lewis Burtis, that the young man was a *member*, and had a *right* to speak, and not be disturbed. An attempt was soon made to break up the meeting, but it did not succeed. Several members, men and women, said, "Let him speak." Jacob stood during the time. Order was restored, and he finished without further interruption. After meeting, a woman (not a member) said, "The young man was voted down, and voted up." It is nothing strange or new, for a *minister* who is known to be an abolitionist to be opposed in our meetings. Even if he does not touch on the subject of slavery, it matters not; he is marked, and treated accordingly. I have, a number of times, been treated in this unkind way, when slavery was not alluded to, or even thought of. I am sorry, very sorry, that things have come to this pass; but, so it is. How long it will continue, I cannot say. We must, however, keep in the patience; it may, perhaps, cure itself.

My mind has been led, particularly, since reading the address issued by Baltimore Yearly meeting, to the subject of Friends *keeping in the quiet*, and abstaining from uniting with others in their efforts to promote moral reform by concert of action. We should always have a care with whom we associate, either publicly or privately, inasmuch, as "evil communications corrupt good manners;" but, because others happily come to see, and unite to testify against the crying sins of the land—those sins which the society *pretend* to bear a testimony against, to wit: slavery, war, intemperance, &c. I cannot see any good reason why Friends should withhold their countenance or aid. In fact, it appears to me that, by so doing, we discourage those who are engaged in the work, and thereby retard the cause, injure ourselves, and strengthen the hands of the evil doer. We have a striking evidence of this in the course taken by Baltimore Yearly meeting; if I may judge from an article I saw in a Baltimore newspaper, on the subject of the address issued by that meeting. It is, to me, absurd that, at this day and age, Friends should talk about *keeping in the quiet*. Have they not, since the first rise of the society, been agitating the public? Their testimonies were calculated to do so; and, I believe the agitation has been productive of great good to the world. If the *Society* had continued its testimony against the giant evils of the land, with the same zeal and fidelity that many *individuals* have done, there would, I believe, be a very different state of things from what now exists.

Friends *pretend* to uphold principles of peace, and, to be opposed to taking the life of a brother; at the same time, many of them attend elections for government officers, and vote for a slaveholding President, and war making Congress. We make a great outery against capital punishment, and petition the legislature for its abolition, and then vote a man into the office of hangman. Such doings are so palpably inconsistent, I am not surprised that we have not made greater advancement in righteousness.

I will now bring thy mind to the course pursued by Friends in relation to the Seneca Indians. When that people called upon them to aid and assist in defeating the treaty fraudulently obtained by the Ogden company, what did they do? Did the Society recommend its members to remain in the quiet? or did they, on the contrary, use every effort to arouse not only the four Yearly meetings, but the public to oppose this nefarious transaction? All fair and honorable means were used to excite the public indignation against the outrage, without regard to political or religious sect; and I can tell thee, my friend, it was thus that the object of the Ogden company was defeated. Public opinion had a powerful influence on the government and the company.

Friends may talk of the *quiet* as much as they will, but no people on the face of the earth have made so much noise as they have; and, so long as Quakerism remains pure, it always will make a noise, until man's head, heart, and hand become right.

A *real* quiet state is indispensable to us all. In this state it is, that we hear the voice of the true Shepard, and, move under his influence to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the sick, and relieve the oppressed. This is the only religion that is worth having: Love to God, love to man. All else is drawing nigh unto God with our lips.

THE CHESTER COUNTY CONVENTION.

Having observed the call for this convention in the Anti-Slavery Standard, I felt very desirous of being present; as several circumstances induced the belief that it would be one of unusual interest. In the first place, the location was in a part of the State remarkable for its intelligence, as well as liberality and zeal in all moral reforms; again, the prominent subject proposed to be discussed was one in which my sympathies have long been enlisted; viz: an inquiry "into the course proper to be pursued by the Free States for the protection of their citizens from being carried away into slavery, under pretense that they owe service or labor to the inhabitants of other States;" and, lastly, it was well understood that our venerated and beloved friend, Isaac T. Hopper, was to be in attendance. I felt an ardent desire, once more, to give him a cordial shake of the hand, and witness the many tokens of respect and affection shown by those of his friends in the cause of humanity who are best qualified to appreciate his invaluable services, rendered through the long period of his life, to his down-trodden fellow-men, and frequently under circumstances of perilous self-denial.

In reference to all the above considerations, I have been abundantly gratified. There were but few strangers, who took an active part in the proceedings of the convention; nor was it necessary to call in foreign aid, by such a community as were within attending distance. Among those who were active in the proceedings, and who contributed largely to the interest of the meeting, were a number with whom I had not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance. But there was William Jackson, Lindley Coates, James Fulton, several of the Hamiltons and Prestons, &c. &c. who, by their intelligence and zeal, gave animation and interest to the various topics of discussion. The resolutions were of a highly interesting character, and afforded ample scope for much ingenious discussion. They embraced the object contemplated in the call, and were the means of eliciting much light on the subject. By order of the meeting, the resolutions, (which were passed by a nearly unanimous vote,) were directed to be forwarded to the legislature of the State; and I hope they will lend their share of influence in preventing enactments that shall entirely separate our State officers from all participation in the nefarious business of aiding the slaveholder in seizing, imprisoning, or carrying into slavery, his fugitive slaves. Apart from any anti-slavery influence in accomplishing this object, it is believed the *unenviable position* in which the civil officers of this State have been placed by the late decision of the United States Supreme Court, will induce our legislature to give the State laws on this subject a thorough revision.

The convention closed its sessions on First day afternoon, the fifth of the present month; having adjourned from Friends' meeting-house, Marlborough, on the day preceding, to that of Kennet square, at two o'clock on First day afternoon. Although the day was exceedingly inclement, a large audience convened at the time appointed, and were delighted in listening to many judicious remarks and narratives, of thrilling interest, from our venerable friend, I. T. Hopper. The resolutions before the meeting were of such a character, as to render such narratives strikingly appropriate, and well adapted to illustrate their various positions. And, on no former occasion, have I beheld an audience manifesting more intense interest, than in the present instance. Their eyes seemed fastened on the speaker, as by a charm; and he could doubtless have commanded their closest attention for hours, had the time permitted.

After the meeting, our friend, I. T. H. was invited to spend the evening at the house of J. J. Phillips, who resides within a short distance of Kennet square. When it became known that our venerable friend would pass the evening at this place, such was the desire to embrace the opportunity of manifesting their feelings of respect, that it really appeared, from the throngs of visitors who called to see him, that the convention had adjourned to the house of the friend above-mentioned. The evening was most delightfully spent, in listening to the conversation of our beloved guest, which embraced a number of most interesting narratives, setting forth many incidents of his eventful life; detailed with his peculiar felicity of expression, and many of them fraught with deep instruction. The interesting events of his travels in Great Britain and Ireland, with many incidents connected with the adventures of fugitive slaves, formed a portion of the conversation, that riveted the attention of his hearers; and truly, I have rarely spent an evening, to which I recur with such satisfaction, as this; whether I recall periods of innocent entertainment, or such as have been characterized by deep instruction.

I cannot close this brief sketch, without reverting, with peculiar satisfaction, to the circumstance of Friends' meeting-houses being freely used in this quarter, for the accommodation of anti-slavery meetings and conventions, as well as for the examination of subjects generally embraced by the *testimonies* of the Society of Friends. *This is as it should be; worthy of their principles and their early practice.* How far above that narrow-minded, sectarian bigotry, which, while it unhesitatingly permits persons to combine with those of every creed in the acquisition of wealth, or the attainment of other worldly objects, yet shrinks with holy horror from "the mixture," when it is proposed to unite with our fellow-men of other religious persuasions, in deeds of mercy and benevolence! I most sincerely hope, that the time is not very distant, when the Society of Friends, as a body, will discard such a selfish and bigoted course of conduct; and, instead of regarding, with a jealous eye, their Christian brethren engaged in deeds of mercy, they will freely participate with them in every good work, which they have been accustomed to regard as contributing to the sum of human happiness; and that, throughout the length and breadth of the land, the Society of Friends will consider *no place* more suitable for deliberating on the wrongs and sufferings of their fellow-men, than that, in which they are accustomed to meet to worship that Being, who has declared, that "pure religion, and undefiled before God and the Father, is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep themselves unspotted from the world." W. H. J.

BUCKINGHAM, 2d mo. 7th. 1843.

The Anti-Slavery Standard.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, FEB'Y. 23, 1843.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, Feb, 13, 1843.

An occurrence of a very exciting nature took place to-day. Mr. Giddings made an admirable argument against the bill for paying over to claimants who lost slaves from on board the brigs Comet and Encomium, at the Bahama islands, a balance of the indemnity allowed by Great Britain; which balance had been passed by Mr. Forsyth to the United States treasurer. I refer to the last Standard for the state in which the bill went to the Senate. Although the slaveholders had consented and requested that Mr. Giddings should make just such alterations as he pleased; yet, when they got the bill out of his reach in the Senate, they restored it to its original shape. Observe that the bill, as modified by Mr. Giddings, gave them their money by restoring it precisely to the condition in which it was in Forsyth's hands, where no law of the United States controlled, or touched it in any way; and an individual had received, held, and distributed it, without authority of law, and by mere direction of the executive. But the southerners were not content with getting their money; they must also have the implied sanction of Congress for their slave breeding and slave trading; therefore, the amendments of Mr. Giddings were stricken out in the Senate, and the bill pressed back upon the House, under the screw of the previous question. After a great variety of motions to defeat or stay the passage of the bill, and to make an opening to expose its insidious and corrupt character, during which, every inch of ground was admirably disputed by a small band, the amendments of the Senate were concurred in; whereupon Mr. Giddings rose and moved a reconsideration, having voted in the affirmative with that view. He now had the floor for an hour; and never was an hour better used in this House, or this country. His arguments were perfectly unanswerable. He showed, by documents, that Mr. Stevenson obtained this money by misrepresentation; having assured Lord Palmerston that the United States government had recognized property in man, by paying for slaves, *killed or lost in the public service*; an assertion *wholly unfounded in fact*. He appealed to northern democrats, whether they would sustain a man [Van Buren] who, as Secretary of State, had instructed Stevenson to press this question of compensation for slaves, as the first in importance with which he was charged; and this, when there were pending disputed boundaries of the northeast and the southwest! He appealed to the high-minded and consistent statesmen of the South, whether, after branding the slave trade as piracy, on the east side of a line, they would protect and encourage it on the west side of that line; whether they would protect slave trading and *slave breeding*, when they so strenuously refused protection to all kinds of northern manufactures; and he appealed to both northern democrats and southern slaveholders, whether, after gagging the people of this nation, and spurning their respectful petitions from this House, on the ground that Congress had no power to touch the subject of slavery, or the slave trade, they would now wheel round and vote money out of the pockets of the people thus spurned, for the aid and encouragement of the foul and infernal traffic in human flesh and blood? He appealed specially to R. D. Davis, who two days ago had declared himself a friend "to free trade, and *universal liberty*."

Mr. Cushing replied, at much length. The point he made, that appeared most acceptable to his southern friends, was this: It was a narrow, absurd, a one-sided theory, that any portion of the property, or any interest of any portion of the people of this great and glorious confederacy, was not to be protected equally with all others. Suppose that southern statesmen should assume that a whale ship captured or robbed was not to be protected, because it was employed in catching and making merchandise of *poor, innocent whales!* Here there was a heartfelt shout of laughter in the southern portion of the House.

Mr. Dawson, of Louisiana, the same who threatened to cut a member's throat, at the last session, because he did not speak to please him, took occasion to come in contact with Mr. Giddings, and give him a *push*. To a question of Mr. G. whether he did this on purpose, he said, "Yes;" and to another question, he said, "He did it to insult him." Dawson then passed slowly down the alley from Mr. G. and then up again, clutching the haft of a bowie-knife, with his right hand. The subject of debate being disposed of, Mr. Giddings informed the House concerning the indignity, and submitted it to them to take such order, or no order, as they might deem proper, for the preservation of their rights, and their dignity. Personally, he had no anxiety as to their action on the case. Several members now rose, breaking the profound stillness which reigned while Mr. G. was stating the facts. Wise got the floor, and intreated that Mr. Giddings would waive his complaint; the session was so short, the business so immense and momentous. It was only a little jostle, such as happened to him every day, and to every member; Mr. Giddings was *so innocent* in his intercourse with members, and Mr. Dawson *such* a gentleman, that the matter aught not to go further. He (Mr. W.) had *seen* nothing. Two or three other southern members had seen nothing; and one undertook to describe how Mr. Giddings had *not* been pushed, and in what manner he had *not* been insulted at all; and in faith they all chimed in, and got up a laugh, and pronounced it a pretty good joke. Mr. Adams, of Massachusetts, supposed that the gentleman from Louisiana did not intend to cut the throat of the gentleman from Ohio from ear to ear, (alluding to a former remark attributed to Mr. Dawson.) Mr. Calhoun, of Massachusetts, attempted to give some support to Mr. Giddings, and called for the reading of so much of the manual as defined the rights of the representatives of a free people on this floor; but it was laughed and clamored down; and at this stage, on motion of Mr. Kennedy, of Maryland, the House went into committee of the whole. Such are the facts of the case. The men of this nation who are neither slaves themselves, nor the enslavers of others, will, I trust, ponder them deeply.—D. L. C.

—

FEBRUARY 18, 1843.

I did not myself see the whole of the transaction described in my last; and I now add some further particulars, which I consider important. During about half of Mr. Giddings's speech, I had seen Dawson standing in the centre of the Hall, near the clerk's desk, in the midst of a group of southern members, all of them looking extremely wrathful, and some of them gesticulating violently, and uttering words which I could not hear. One of them, [Mr. Rayner, of North Carolina,] as I am informed by a member, who heard him, said, with an oath, that he would like to cut off Giddings's ears. In this angry group, Dawson was conspicuous. Being intent upon hearing, I did not follow him with my eye, when he left the position above-mentioned, and went outside of the bar, into a semicircular aisle, which passes round betwixt the walls, and the bar and benches of the House. It is now stated, by different members and reporters, that when he entered the narrow aisle in which Mr. Giddings partly stood, and which passes between the seats from the outside aisle to the centre of the Hall, he appeared as if bent upon some desperate action. He approached Mr. Giddings in the rear, and gave him a punch in the back, with his hand. I thought when I wrote at first, that he pushed him with his shoulder. He punched him with one hand or fist, keeping the other on the handle of his bowie-knife. Had Mr. Giddings struck back, as most men, upon such a provocation, would have done, and as Dawson probably expected, we should have had stabbing, and perhaps assassination, on the floor of the House! Among the speakers, who took the floor upon Mr. Giddings's bringing the outrage to the knowledge of the House, was Mr. Moore, a colleague of Dawson. He was distant, his back towards me, and there was much noise in the Hall, so that I could not hear. I am informed that he said, in substance, that his colleague was not in a state to meditate a malicious attack, or to be a fit subject for the attention of the House; meaning that he was intoxicated, as in fact he frequently is, and sometimes in the streets of this city. I doubt very much whether he was intoxicated on this occasion; and the assertion probably rests on his general character, for it was early in the day; but it is possible that he was excited by drink. Of course, if he was, it could be no excuse, or palliation; but on the contrary, an aggravation of the offense.

When I closed my letter on the evening of that day, I did expect that the Ohio delegation, some of whom declared that it belonged to *them* to take up the matter, would have brought forward a motion for a committee to inquire whether there had been a contempt and breach of the privileges of the House; and in case of finding the fact, to report suitable action thereon. Had not the Ohio members claimed this duty, as a privilege, I think that members from other free States would not have remained passive until the time for action had gone by. As the matter stands, it affords the utmost encouragement for such "*lewd* fellows of the baser sort," when excited by hatred and brandy, to commit actual murder in the bosom of the representative assembly of the nation. Whether members from the free States will be deterred by this consideration from the exercise of their rights, and the discharge of their duties, I cannot pretend to say; though it seems to me probable that some will. Of this, however, I feel sure, that "neither things past, nor things present, nor life, nor death," will make Joshua R. Giddings swerve from his duty the breadth of one hair. He can forgive an assassin, but he cannot betray his trust.

I suppose you are aware that a bill for the occupation of the Oregon territory passed the Senate by a majority of two; and that a motion to reconsider failed by a tie. The bill went to the House, and after an ineffectual attempt of its friends to refer it to the committee of the whole, and then to the military committee, it was finally referred to the committee on foreign relations, of which Mr. Adams is chairman. The bill is highly objectionable; first, as violating an existing treaty with Great Britain, and leading directly to a war; secondly, as establishing a vagabond population beyond the reach of laws, and *in the neighborhood of California*. I am afraid that the main effect of the act would have been to facilitate the transit of rogues into that "paradise." Mr. Adams has reported, as the opinion of the committee, that the bill ought not to pass.

I have seen Mexican accounts of the late defeat and capture of the Texan army at Mier. None of these accounts are from the commander, Gen. Ampudia. They, however, purport to come from persons engaged in some part of the expedition. I am not able to gather, with certainty, the number of Mexicans engaged, or the number of their killed and wounded; but several Mexican officers state that the Texan prisoners amount to two hundred and fifty, and that they lost forty, in killed and wounded. The Texans are called, in these accounts, "pirates," and "criminals," which cannot be surprising to any one, who knows with what treachery and ingratitude they have conducted towards a people and government whom they themselves, over and over again, declared to be "the most beneficent upon earth." Official communications to the Mexican war department report voluntary contributions of a great many horses, and voluntary enlistments of men for "during the war," to aid in reconquering Texas.

The Mexican convention for forming a new constitution, is in session. The address of the vice-president, Bravo, at the opening, and the answer of the president of the convention, Gen. Valencia, are judicious, and in an excellent spirit. There really seems now to be a prospect of order, rational liberty, and national respectability, in Mexico.

I extract the following from a private letter, dated Mexico, January 5, 1843:

"I mentioned, in my last, that General Reyes had marched out to encounter the Texans, and established his head quarters at a point called El Aguilla. Subsequently, he posted himself in a place called Las Adjunctas; but his movements were so ill-concerted that a body of Texans, about eight hundred in number, advanced to the town of Laredo, and continued on to Mier, passing by the way of Revilla, leaving Reyes encamped about fifty leagues in their rear. The Texans have committed all sorts of excesses in the places where they have passed. It appears that they carried their outrages against our women so far as to violate children of six years old! Gen. Ampudia, with a brigade, put himself in motion in the direction of those villages; and his march was so opportune, that Villareal, with his squadron, attacked in the town of Mier a party of the adventurers, killed forty, took two hundred and fifty prisoners, and put the rest to flight. This news was received today, and is celebrated with salutes of cannon, and ringing of bells. Gen. Reyes has been ordered to surrender the command to Gen. Wool, and to proceed to this capital to answer for his misconduct."

The New Orleans Bulletin has published a list of two hundred and forty-eight Texans taken prisoners at Meir. This information is taken from Galveston papers, and agrees, thus far, with the Mexican accounts. These prisoners were at work at a place called Perate, except Van Ness, a native of New-York, who was one of the Santa Fé prisoners, and had been taken

certain case, of seamen in southern ports, were ordered to be printed, without opposition. Their southern masters having given permission, the northern slave-democrats now voted for it!—D. L. C.

HENRY CLAY.

All credit should be given to such whigs as stand by the right of speech, and the right of petition. But it is earnestly to be hoped, that the honorable comparison between whig and democratic votes, on all subjects connected with slavery, will not delude any whig abolitionist into the support of Henry Clay. Both whigs and democrats should be taught, that the selection of a slaveholder for their candidate is a measure dangerous to the interest of their parties. If you value the principles of human freedom, write against Henry Clay, and say, boldly and perseveringly, everywhere, that *an upholder of slavery is not fit to be at the head of a republic*. No matter though *parties* be smashed like earthern vessels. If this republic is to be saved, it *must* cleanse itself of slavery!

Mr. Clay has, in bygone years, spoken of the great advantages Kentucky would derive by not engrafting slavery on her State constitution. He then showed that he at least knew well that free labor was the wiser political *economy*; and because he thus eulogized free labor, some are disposed to think, that he cannot be quite so friendly to the "peculiar institution," as John C. Calhoun. This is a delusion. If it be fair to judge a man by his own works, Mr. Clay would make as great a sacrifice of principle as any politician in the country, to please the South. If he wanted no office higher than Kentucky could give, he probably would have given his influence to some plan of emancipation; for he sees plainly enough that it is *Slavery* which keeps that noble State behind Ohio in prosperity and improvement. But the difficulty is, *Mr. Clay wants to be President*; and he well knows that he could not get the votes of *southern* whigs, if he emancipated his own slaves, or even favored freedom in Kentucky. He never looked at the subject of slavery from any higher point of view than interest; and if one may judge by his proceedings, he values his own interest above that of the commonwealth.

Speaking of an attempt to adopt gradual emancipation in Kentucky, which was made and defeated more than forty years ago, Mr. Clay said: "I shall never cease to regret a decision, the effects of which have been to place us in the rear of our neighbors, (who are exempt from slavery,) in the state of agriculture, the progress of manufactures, the advance of improvement, and the general prosperity of society." Yet, in 1839, when the legislature of Kentucky passed a bill, to take the sense of the people on the question of amending their constitution, *with a view to abolish slavery*, Mr. Clay opposed the measure with great activity. All the democratic papers in the State but two favored it, and the majority of the whig presses also. But the *leading* whig papers, that were the organs of Mr. Clay, opposed it. The vote went against calling a convention for an amendment of the constitution; and it was universally admitted, that this unfavorable result was chiefly owing to the personal interest of Henry Clay.

When Mr. Mendenhall, of Indiana, presented him a respectful request to emancipate his slaves, in the name of two or three thousand citizens, this same Henry Clay replied, that "he deplored the existence of slavery as a national evil, and would willingly unite in any practicable measure for its eradication. He did not think the course of the abolitionists calculated to accomplish that end; on the contrary, he knew that the feeling in favor of emancipation had been put back fifty years in Kentucky, by the abolition excitement." Had he forgotten that the movement to amend the Kentucky constitution in favor of freedom was made in the very height of the anti-slavery excitement? and that the measure was so popular, that it required the strongest exertion of his personal influence to prevent its adoption? He surely *forgot* that his own ambition prevented 160,000 slaves, in Kentucky, from attaining the rights of freemen, or he would not have had the audacity to pretend that *anti-slavery* "put back emancipation fifty years in Kentucky." The affectedly courteous, but really scornful and supercilious, tone of his reply to Mr. Mendenhall, is far more offensive to the dignity of freemen, than the most fiery explosions of southern Hotspurs.

In the close contest for the admission of Missouri, Mr. Clay spoke for four hours, with the most passionate eloquence, in favor of the admission. His zeal had great effect on the wavering members of his party. It is generally admitted that he took the lead in the "compromise," by which the free States were freshly bound to the bloody car of slavery.

Yet this is the man who declares that he "considers the existence of slavery a national evil, and would willingly unite in any practicable measure for its eradication!" Believe him who can! If he sincerely wishes for emancipation, and is half the statesman his party cry him up to be, why has he never devised any nice, wise, safe scheme of his own, to effect the purpose? Why has he taken every opportunity to rivet the chains tighter?

GOVERNOR BOUCK.

The new governor of New-York is reaping a harvest of golden opinions from slaveholders, of all parties. The Richmond Whig, (Virginia,) much as it dislikes his politics, says:

"He has spoken on the Virginian question with an independence we did not anticipate—a fearless frankness, which argues highly of his personal firmness and sincerity; and for which we cheerfully award him the tribute of praise to which he is entitled."

The Richmond Enquirer quotes that part of his message which relates to the controversy between New-York and Virginia, with enthusiastic commendation. It says:

"He has toed the mark like a man, and come forward to discharge his duties as becomes the chief magistrate of the largest State in the confederate Union.

We have never known any extracts from any State paper take so well with the republicans around us, as the brief extracts which we made in our last from Gov. Bouck's message. It was received with the most glowing enthusiasm; and pronounced by some of the best critics, not only to be among the best sentiments they ever heard, but among the best compositions which they had ever read. We shall make more copious extracts in our next paper."

The Albany Argus, the Utica Observer, and other democratic papers, copy these Southern praises, as if desirous to let their party know that slaveholders are satisfied with the manner in which they "toe the mark."

The Globe, their national organ, thus comments on the governor's message:

"We were particularly struck with the closing paragraphs, on a subject which men in the North, looking to political distinction, have, for the most part, treated very shyly. Whenever they tread upon the ground of abolition, it is very apparent that they are generally *tenderfooted*. Governor Bouck walks very firmly upon this path, as on every other; and it is remarkable that he should, in the face of the abolition committee, (which holds its meeting at Albany, and which has boasted, in its late annual report, that it has aided the abduction of 350 slaves, most of them 'from Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia, and nearly or quite a hundred from Washington and Georgetown,') have declared that he looked upon acts of the kind boasted of, as amounting to felony. His purpose to surrender any person shown to be guilty of stealing a slave, and demanded by the State against whose laws the offense is perpetrated, to undergo trial and punishment under those laws, is not disguised."

This is going farther than mere "treading in the footsteps of his illustrious predecessor;" for even Gov. Marcy, desirous as he was to oblige the slaveholders, did not venture to surrender R. G. Williams, when claimed by the governor of Alabama, under an indictment.

We question whether any official document of the Free States has bid so high for southern patronage. Governor Fairfield, of Maine, refused to surrender Philbrook and Kelleran, on requisition of the governor of Georgia, after an actual indictment for stealing a slave.

Probably Governor Bouck would not have gone quite so far, if the presidential campaign were not coming on. In view of this fact, the Albany Argus seems to feel much comfort and assurance in the renewed alliance between the "Empire State" and the "Old Dominion." Yet, after all, we doubt whether the democratic party in New-York will *venture* to feed the southern appetite with anything more than the fumes of a savory dinner, and the rattling of the knives and forks. If they do, it will be a bad day's work for their influence in the *State*, however it may affect the *presidency*.

DEMOCRACY.

Now and then we receive complaints that we are more fond of finding fault with the democratic party, than with the whig; and that we never record anything in *their* favor, but are very lynx-eyed to observe everything in favor of the whigs. Stimulated by these suggestions, we have sought eagerly to *find* something to praise in the democratic party, in relation to slavery. We have asked three or four of its active partisans to be on the watch, and inform us whenever their party did anything favorable to abolition; but as yet our efforts have been in vain.

That we speak of them with more sarcasm than of other parties, may be true; because their practice is *so glaringly inconsistent with their own boasted principles*. For the same reason, the Quakers, as a society, are peculiarly open to rebuke; for no other sect has assumed so high a standard as they have, on questions of humanity; particularly that of slavery.

If we have misrepresented the democratic *party*, in calling them the "allies of the South," let their position be described by one of their own favorites. Mr. Buchanan, of Pennsylvania, whom they once talked of as a suitable candidate for the presidency, made a speech on the late treaty with Great Britain, which is published in the Globe, the organ of "Simon Pure Democracy." We extract the following:

"I might here repeat what I have said on a former occasion, *that all Christendom is leagued against the South upon this question of domestic slavery. They have no other allies to sustain their constitutional rights, except the democracy of the North.* I do not mean to insinuate that the whig party of the North are generally abolitionists. Far from it. But this I will say, that whig candidates most generally receive the support of the abolitionists; and therefore, the whigs, as a party, are careful not to give them offense. In my own State, we inscribe upon our party banners, *hostility to abolition*. It is there one of the cardinal principles of the democratic party; and many a hard battle have we fought to sustain this principle."

THE PIONEER.

This is the name of a new magazine, of which two numbers only have been published. I have not been prompt in bidding it welcome, because I would not speak of it, till I had *read* it. I could not give it a mere cold, passing notice, because my heart has been too much drawn towards its gifted editor, James Russell Lowell, and toward some of its contributors; and hasty, indiscriminate praise I would not give; especially when I saw that it was received with a chorus of commendation.

The Pioneer aims to elevate the standard of periodical literature, in purity of moral tone, manliness of thought, and high cultivation of taste; and if it does not rise to its own ideal, it at least rises above most of its competitors. "He that aims at the stars, if he does not hit them, will at least reach higher than he who aims at a pine tree."

The editor's own articles are full of large thought and liberal love, abounding with metaphors at every step; reminding one of paths through the woods of Mexico, where flowers are spread like a carpet beneath your feet, clothe the trees in garments of flame, peep forth from mosses, and swing in the festooned vine. This prodigality of ornament does not offend the taste, however, because it obviously "pipes itself," as the boy said, when accounting for the music he made. The poetic soul receives constant revelations of the divine union between spirit and matter, and metaphor is its natural language. Mr. Lowell has evidently a nature loving, joyful, and hearty. May the experience of this market-day world never teach him to labor for what now flows from his lips like the fountain, sparkling as it falls.

The articles on the old dramatists are written with a great degree of critical discrimination, and hearty appreciation of their quaint beauties. Few readers, probably, will estimate them as highly as they deserve. The little poem called "The Rose," tastefully illustrated with marginal sketches, like a vine trailing on the window-side, is an especial favorite. Whenever I am spiritually seated in a high and lonely tower, this beautiful little piece will give me renewed faith that every rose-like thought I throw out, will surely greet some wanderer on the seashore.

John S. Dwight contributes valuable articles on music, which must be a great treat to those who know enough to understand them fully. I am ignorant of the alphabet of the science, yet even to me, they are delightful, because they are written in a spirit and style, which is of itself music.

The moral character of the Pioneer is high and pure. That it does not descend to the usual timid and time-serving spirit on unpopular subjects, may be judged by the following remarks on Longfellow's Poems on Slavery:

"We do not join in the torrent of eulogy upon the fearlessness, and nobleness of spirit evinced by the author in publishing this little pamphlet; because we think it is yielding quite too much to the exacting spirit of evil, to say that a man does any more than his simple duty to his instincts, when he espouses the cause of right. It is always an argument of greater courage in a man, (so far as that goes,) to deny and refuse the divine message that is sent to him; (as it always is sooner or later,) for in so doing, he causes his guardian angel to hide her face from him in sorrow, and defies the spirit of God in his own soul, who is thenceforth his most implacable foe, and one that always vanquishes at last. The sentiment of anti-slavery, too, is spreading so fast and so far over the whole land, that its opponents are rapidly dwindling into a minority. Moreover, such praise, if any there be, should be given to the early disciples and apostles of this gospel; men and women who have endured for their faith such spiritualized martyrdom as the refined nineteenth century is still tenacious of inflicting. There for instance is William Lloyd Garrison, the half-inspired Luther of this reform, a man too remarkable to be appreciated in his generation, but whom the future will recognize as a great and wonderful spirit. There too, is Whittier, the fiery Kœrner of this spiritual warfare, who, Scaevola-like, has sacrificed on the altar of duty, that right hand which might have made him acknowledged as the most passionate lyrist of his time. Nor ought the gentle spirit of Follen, a lion with a lamb's heart, to be forgotten, whose fiery fate, from which the mind turns horror-stricken, was perhaps to his mild nature less dreadful, than that stake and fagot of public opinion, in dragging him to which many whom he loved were not inactive; for silence, in *such* times, is action. And Channing, a man great and original in perceiving, elucidating and defending those great moral truths, which others were the first to discover. When we see these, and such as these, denounced as self-interested zealots, by those who have never read a word of their controversial writings, we know not whether to be most surprised at the fearless ignorance which classes such widely different natures together, or at the contented simplicity which receives such oracles for gospels, and is pleased to accept that as knowledge, which is truly but the overrunnings of surplus ignorance. That some of them are "unguarded in their expressions," we allow; but a great idea has seldom time to waste in selecting what Hotspur would have called, 'parmaceti phrases,' and the spirit of reform does not usually make a fiery spirit more mild. Luther was the greatest blackguard, as well as the greatest reformer of his time; and Milton threw dirt, (not, however, without a few chance-fallen rose leaves in it,) at Salmasius, not only without stint, but with an evident satisfaction. Men who feel that they are in the right, are prone to indignation at those who oppose them; and they who do not live in glass houses, sometimes make it their profession to throw stones."

This Magazine is very handsomely printed, and ornamented with two or three engravings in each number, tastefully designed, and extremely well executed. Among the writers are John G. Whittier, John Neal, Edgar A. Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, George S. Burleigh, &c.

Price three dollars a year, or two copies for five dollars. It will make a volume of 576 pages. Published at 67 Washington street, Boston.

FOREIGN INTERFERENCE.

They have been holding Irish Repeal meetings in Charleston, South Carolina, in which the tyranny of England has met with severe and eloquent castigation. The report of one of their committees speaks of Ireland as "that land where nature's boundless goodness is rivalled only by man's boundless curses. Where industry lies crushed—genius neglected—religion proscribed—humanity violated and outraged; that land where a people are held under the absolute bondage of placemen and government spies."

All this is singularly applicable to South Carolina; yet if Great Britain were to tell them so, what a bluster they would make about "foreign interference!"

Robert Tyler, son of the President, lately made a speech before an Irish Repeal Society, in Washington. He had sense enough to perceive the inconsistency of a slaveholder's spouting against foreign tyranny, and justified himself by the example of Prince Albert, who presided at the "World's Convention" in London, for the abolition of slavery and the slave trade throughout the world.

This is as it should be; provided we are as willing to *take* rebuke as we are to *give* it. Both individuals and nations should strive to convince each other of sin; and if it be done in a kind and candid spirit, the effect cannot be otherwise than mutually beneficial.

MR. SALTONSTALL AND J. Q. ADAMS.

Some months ago, we published that Mr. Saltonstall, representative to Congress from Massachusetts, had written a letter advising the legislature of that commonwealth not to pass resolutions, sustaining John Quincy Adams's course, lest it should injure the Massachusetts claim, pending in Congress.

We published this statement on the authority of Dr. H. I. Bowditch, whose perfect integrity and conscientiousness we knew too well to doubt. It has since been said that injustice was done to Mr. Saltonstall, and we have been ready at any moment to publish any facts that were presented in justification. We copy, from the Boston Courier, an article which gives a true history of the matter, though it leaves somewhat to be disentangled.

LETTERS FROM NEW-YORK.—No. 51.

I had not room, in my last, to say all that I wished, on the subject of Women's Rights. On no other theme, probably, has there been uttered so much of false, mawkish sentiment, shallow philosophy, and sputtering, farthing-candle wit. If the style of its advocates has often been offensive to taste, and unacceptable to reason, assuredly that of its opponents has been still more so. College boys have amused themselves with writing dreams, in which they saw women in hotels, with their feet hoisted, and chairs tilted back, or growling and bickering at each other in legislative halls, or fighting at the polls, with eyes blackened by fisticuffs. But it never seems to have occurred to these very witty writers, that the proceedings which seem so ludicrous and improper in *women*, are also ridiculous and disgraceful in *men*. It were well that *men* should learn not to hoist their feet above their heads, and tilt their chairs backward, not to growl and snap in the halls of legislation, or give each other black eyes at the polls.

Maria Edgeworth says, "We are disgusted when we see a woman's mind overwhelmed with a torrent of learning; that the tide of literature has passed over it should be betrayed only by its fertility." This is beautiful and true; but is it not likewise applicable to man? The truly great never seek to display themselves. If they carry their heads high above the crowd, it is only made manifest to others by accidental revelations of their extended vision. "Human duties and proprieties do not lie so very far apart," said Harriet Martineau; "if they did, there would be two gospels, and two teachers, one for man, and another for woman."

It would seem, indeed, as if men were willing to give women the exclusive benefit of gospel-teaching. "*Women* should be gentle," say the advocates of subordination; but when Christ said, "Blessed are the meek," did he preach to women only? "*Girls* should be modest," is the language of common teaching, continually uttered in words and customs. Would it not be an improvement for men, also, to be scrupulously pure in manners, conversation, and life? Books addressed to young married people abound with advice to the *wife*, to control her temper, and never to utter wearisome complaints, or vexatious words, when the husband comes home fretful or unreasonable, from his out-of-door conflicts with the world. Would not the advice be as excellent and appropriate, if the husband were advised to conquer *his* fretfulness, and forbear *his* complaints, in consideration of his wife's ill-health, fatiguing cares, and the thousand disheartening influences of domestic routine? In short, whatsoever can be named as loveliest, best, and most graceful in woman, would likewise be good and graceful in man. You will perhaps remind me of courage. If you use the word in its highest signification, I answer that woman, above others, has abundant need of it, in her pilgrimage; and the true woman wears it with a quiet grace. If you mean mere animal courage, *that* is not mentioned in the Sermon on the Mount, among those qualities which enable us to inherit the earth, or become the children of God. That the feminine ideal approaches much nearer to the gospel standard, than the prevalent idea of manhood, is shown by the universal tendency to represent the Saviour and his most beloved disciple with mild, meek expression, and feminine beauty. None speak of the bravery, the might, or the intellect of Jesus; but the Devil is always imagined as a being of acute intellect, political cunning, and the fiercest courage. These universal and instinctive tendencies of the human mind reveal much.

The nearer society approaches to divine order, the less separation will there be in the characters, duties, and pursuits of men and women. Women will not become less gentle and graceful, but men will become more so. Women will not neglect the care and education of their children, but men will find themselves ennobled and refined by sharing those duties with them; and will receive, in return, co-operation and sympathy in the discharge of various other duties, now deemed inappropriate to women. The more women become rational companions, partners in business and in thought, as well as in affection and amusement, the more highly will men appreciate *home*—that blessed word, which opens to the human heart the most perfect glimpses of Heaven, and helps to carry it thither, as on an angel's wings.

"Domestic bliss,
That can, the world eluding, be itself
A world enjoyed; that wants no witnesses
But its own sharers, and approving heaven;
That, like a flower deep hid in rocky cleft,
Smiles, though 'tis looking only at the sky."

Alas, for these days of Astor houses, and Tremonts, and Albions! where families exchange comfort for costliness, fireside retirement for flirtation and flaunting, and the simple, healthful, cozy meal, for gravies and gout, dainties and dyspepsia. There is no characteristic of my countrymen which I regret so deeply, as their slight degree of adhesiveness to home. Closely intertwined with this instinct, is the religion of a nation. The Home and the Church bear a near relation to each other. The French have no such word as home in their language, and they are the least reverential and religious of all the Christian nations. A Frenchman had been in the habit of visiting a lady constantly for several years, and being alarmed at a report that she was sought in marriage, he was asked why he did not marry her himself. "*Marry her!*" exclaimed he. "Good heavens! *where should I spend my evenings?*" The idea of domestic happiness was altogether a foreign idea to his soul, like a word that conveyed no meaning. Religious sentiment in France leads the same roving life as the domestic affections; breakfasting at one restaurateur's, and supping at another's. When some wag in Boston reported that Louis Phillippe had sent over for Dr. Channing to manufacture a religion for the French people, the witty significance of the joke was generally appreciated.

There is a deep spiritual reason why all that relates to the domestic affections should ever be found in close proximity with religious faith. The age of chivalry was likewise one of unquestioning veneration, which led to the crusade for the holy sepulchre. The French Revolution, which tore down churches, and voted that there was no God, likewise annulled marriage; and the doctrine that there is no sex in souls has usually, (not always,) been urged by those of infidel tendencies. Carlyle says: "But what feeling it was in the ancient, devout, deep soul, which of marriage made a *sacrament*, this, of all things in the world, is what Diderot will think of for æons without discovering; unless, perhaps, it were to increase the *vestry fees*."

Hence it is, that the question of "Women's Rights" has become so generally associated, in the popular mind, with infidelity; and the same thing may be truly said of other struggles of the human soul for *freedom*. But, after all, these errors, broached in extreme re-action to other errors, are but perverted truths. They utter the yearnings and prophesies of the soul, though vaguely and imperfectly.

The present position of woman in society *is* a false one; and this conviction is pressing on the common consciousness, through all the obstacles of bigotry, sensuality, and selfishness. By slow, but sure degrees, the sphere of woman's usefulness is widened. As man approaches to the truest life, he will perceive more and more that there is no separation or discord in their mutual duties. They will be one; but it will be as affection and thought are one. The treble and base of the same harmonious tune.—L. M. C.

CIRCUMSTANCES ALTER CASES.

We learn from the New Orleans Courier, that "passengers from Havana say it is now as difficult to get a living in the island of Cuba, as in any part of the United States. Small traders, clerks, and mechanics particularly, feel the embarrassment of the times, the fall of prices, and the stagnation of business."

If such a state of things were recorded of Jamaica, or any of the British islands, the New Orleans papers would not fail to attribute it to the baneful *effects of emancipation*. But as the "patriarchal institution" is flourishing undisturbed in Cuba, they must of course be at a loss how to account for the absence of prosperity. It is a wonder they do not say that the prospect of possible emancipation, at some future day, has cast the gloom over Cuba, which freedom is wont to cast everywhere.

ABBY KELLEY.

A letter from Western New-York, dated February 13th, says: "The convention at Bridgewater was fully attended, notwithstanding both days were the most blustering and cold which we have had this winter. The business of the meeting, the speaking and singing, went off with animation, and the resolutions were passed with great unanimity. The cause in this region is gaining ground rapidly.

The convention to be held at Little Falls, this week, I think will be more fully attended than the one at Bridgewater. It would be very desirable to have some agent of the American Society happen along just in time to "clinch the nails," which Abby Kelley, one of the slave's *best* advocates, has driven. Her labors are most incessant. She has lectured every evening, and sometimes in the afternoon, for many weeks; going from place to place, over the cold hills of Herkimer and Otsego counties, coming in contact with cold hearts, cold houses, cold ministers, and cold churches; but wherever she goes, a fire is kindled, hearts are warmed; and sometimes ministers, and almost whole churches, are converted to 'teetotal abolitionism.'"

☞ We decline publishing the extract from a clergyman's letter, finding fault with our views of C[apital] Punishment; because it is a purely *theological* document. Such objections admit no reply of facts or arguments, and therefore afford scope for interminable discussion, without satisfactory result.

Those who think that murder must be punished with murder, because it is so commanded in the Old Testament, would find themselves, by the same showing, obliged to do several other things, which no civilized community would tolerate; and this they will see, if they look at the subject candidly, whatever may be their religious creeds.

FREE LABOR GOODS.—At the request of Charles Collins, who keeps a free labor store in Pearl street, we have examined a variety of certificates, which prove, satisfactorily to our minds, that his goods are really and truly free from the taint of slave labor. There are several reasons why it would not be advisable to publish the certificates themselves.

Anti-Slavery Items.

THE LATIMER CASE.—Governor McDowell, of Virginia, in pursuance of the request of citizens of Norfolk, has made a communication to the legislature, from which the following is an extract:

"I deem it proper, however, in making this communication, to state, that one branch of the subject presented by the case of Latimer—that which regards him as a fugitive felon—has been taken up for prosecution, and is still in the course of prosecution by this department. The correspondence upon this branch, with the governor of Massachusetts, which was commenced by my predecessor, will be resumed, and I would fain hope, with some more satisfactory result than has yet been obtained."

Let Governor Morton try the experiment of sending Latimer back to slavery, and if he ever gets one majority vote again, we are mistaken. The voice of Massachusetts utters, too strongly to be mistaken,

"No fetters in the Bay State!
No slaves upon our land!"

REPEAL OF THE JURY LAW.—A public meeting was held at Albany, N. Y. on the 2d inst. to consider the propriety and injustice of the repeal of the law allowing the right of trial by jury to persons claimed as fugitive slaves. On motion of E. W. Goodwin, G. L. Crocker was called to the chair. E. P. Freeman was appointed secretary. Messrs. Torrey, Goodwin, E. G. Squier, were appointed a committee to draft resolutions for the consideration of the meeting. Mr. Torrey, in behalf of the committee, reported the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, That the great conservative principles of the Constitution of the United States guarantying the right of trial by jury and the benefit of habeas corpus are in perfect consonance with the dictates of humanity, and ought to be maintained inviolate under all circumstances; especially where personal liberty, on the one hand, and perpetual slavery, on the other, are in question.

Resolved, That the late administration that enacted the law extending the right of trial by jury to persons claimed as fugitive slaves, and the late executive who gave his sanction to said law, and vindicated the rights and interests of New-York against the demands of Virginia, are entitled to the thanks of many citizens of the State.

Resolved, That this meeting look upon the movements of D. R. F. Jones, of New-York, chairman of the judiciary committee, to repeal the jury law, as a base attempt to carry out the principles of the message of the present executive—an attempt which we deem an insult to the people of this free sovereignty—a servility which shows the corruptness from which it proceeded, and which ought to mark its mover with disgrace, and cover him with shame.

Resolved, That the people of this State are sacredly bound to resist, by any and every righteous means, every attempt to impair that great safeguard of freedom, the JURY TRIAL, whether the attempt be made by the people and authorities of another State, in order to sustain them in violating the rights of mankind, or by our own public men, or individual citizens.

Resolved, That the repeal of the law securing the right of trial by jury to persons whose LIBERTY is in question, would be a cowardly concession of our rights to the insolent and unconstitutional demands of the SLAVE POWER, in wanton sacrifice of the rights of our colored fellow-citizens, a base betrayal of the honor and dignity of the State, and an abandonment of the soil of our free State to become the mere hunting-ground for legalized kidnappers and enslavers of mankind.

Resolved, That this meeting invoke the legislature in the sacred names of justice, liberty, their country's honor, and its fundamental law, to resist every effort to resist or change the law that now secures to every human being in the State of New-York, the RIGHT OF TRIAL BY JURY.

Resolved, That the meeting, through its officers, respectfully petition the legislature, at its present session, to enact laws to prohibit every public officer or other citizen from aiding in the recapture of a fugitive slave, unless he is required to do so by the judiciary officers of the United States.

Resolved, That the Albany Patriot, Evening Journal, Morning Atlas, New-York Tribune, and the Liberty Press, at Utica, be requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting.

Resolved, That these resolutions be signed by the chairman and secretary, and presented to the legislature. G. L. CROCKER, *Chairman*.
E. P. FREEMAN, *Secretary*.

TRIAL BY JURY.—A bill to repeal the act, which allows the right of trial by jury to colored persons claimed as fugitive slaves, is now before the legislature of this State. We shall soon see whether the present dominant party in this State, who prate so loudly about liberty and equality, and that justice, like the dew of heaven, should descend alike upon the rich and the poor, will pass a bill denying the right of trial by jury, to those whose crime consists in not having a skin colored like their own. The southern people are in ecstasies, to think that Governor Bouck, the plain, republican farmer, so much favors "the peculiar institutions of the South," that he is desirous of aiding the southern task-master, in obtaining his "human cattle," for the southern market, without the formality of law. Stealing men from the free State of New-York is attended with some trouble, when a jury of twelve men are required to sanction it. Well do northern people deserve the name of "dough-faces," as applied to them by southern slaveholders, when they stoop to such base acts to please the traffickers in human flesh.—*Long Island Farmer*.

ILLINOIS.—We notice, that a bill has been introduced into the Senate, for the apprehension and safe-keeping of runaway slaves, and referred to the committee on the judiciary, which, we doubt not, will be glad to assign to the sovereign State of Illinois, the distinguished post of SLAVE CATCHER, for the slave breeders of the South.

Another eminently democratic measure is in progress in the same legislature. January 10th, Mr. Nunnally asked leave to introduce a bill for punishing amalgamation between whites and blacks; and so little confidence did the members of the legislature seem to have in their unassisted efforts to resist the frightful evil, that they promptly dispensed with the rule, for the sake of having the bill read twice, and then referred it to the committee on the judiciary. One would think that a *democratic* legislature would be specially careful of doing anything, needlessly reflecting on the practise, or calculated to wound the feelings, of that distinguished favorite of the democracy, Richard M. Johnson. And, indeed, that respect for the peculiar institution of *slaveholders*, which democrats profess, should deter them from any open reprobation of *amalgamation*.—*Philanthropist*.

SOUTHERN JEERS.—The Richmond (Va.) Whig contains the following mockery. How would it have sounded in the ears of Franklin, and Rush, and Hancock, and Adams? Aye, how would it have sounded in the ears of their own Jefferson? Would they have *dared* thus to sneer at the sacred name of Freedom, when the spirit of Seventy-Six was abroad in the land? These men must indeed believe that our Declaration of Independence is "a mere rhetorical flourish!"

Hear the voice of Virginia—of her whose laws *compel* her laborers to be ignorant:

The slave Latimer, made an address, *a speech*, at an abolition convention recently held at New Bedford, Mass. Wonder what character he gave of his master, and of us all down South! The papers do not report his maiden effort in this new line, but fancy may possibly supply the exordium:

"Gemmen:—Our glorious declaration pendence say all men by natur free and equal. I tink so too. I love liberty as well as de white man. I don't love work no better nor him. De love of liberty, gemmen, is a flame lit up in de nigger's bosom well as de white man's by Gor Mighty heself, and which he not intend de hand of de white man should stinguish." [*Rapturous applause.*]

KIDNAPPING.—The Cincinnati Gazette records the sentence of one George Buckley, for kidnapping a free mulatto, Mark Howell, who has resided for several years in Cincinnati.

Judge Caldwell charged the jury that State laws, in conflict with the acts of Congress relating to fugitives from labor, were unconstitutional and void—that the power to pass laws for the arrest and removal of such persons, was exclusively vested in Congress, as to which the State legislatures could exercise no concurrent power. But the legislature had undoubted power to provide punishment for the removal from the State of *free* persons, and therefore if the jury found Howell free, and that he had been removed from the State by force or fraud by the defendant, under a pretense of his being a fugitive from service, then he was guilty. The jury returned a verdict of guilty. Sentenced to the penitentiary for five years.

The Philanthropist thus remarks on this decision:

"For the first time within our knowledge, a kidnapper has been convicted in Ohio.

He was detected through the skill of our friend, William Birney, who attended to the preliminary steps of his arrest, and commitment by the mayor. The grand jury found a bill against him. C. H. Brough was prosecuting attorney, and managed the case, we are told, with ability; and no one seemed to regret the verdict of the jury.

We shall set down this conviction of a kidnapper, in Hamilton county, Ohio, as one of the signs of progress."

WHITE WOMEN'S PETITION.—Petitions of the following tenor are coming up from Ohio, based on the act of Congress of 1793, the decision of the Supreme Court in Prigg's case, the proceedings of the courts in Massachusetts in Latimer's case, with the additional fact, that slave-catchers are known to be prowling about the State of Ohio, in pursuit of slaves; some of whom are described in the advertisements in such terms as the following:

"Of fair complexion, straight hair, blue eyes, and will undoubtedly pass for a *white* woman."

Every white woman in the State is liable to be seized under such advertisements, and the Latimer proceedings, would place her absolutely in the power and custody of the ravisher, until she can be brought before a judge of the federal court, with positive proofs that she is free. And if the ravisher choose to take her directly out of the State, the State courts and State laws afford no remedy.
Emancipator.

"*To the Honorable Senate and House, &c:*

The petition of the undersigned women, citizens of Ohio, respectfully represents—

That recent transactions have developed the astounding fact that, by a law of Congress, passed in 1793, concerning fugitives from labor, the vilest man that walks the earth, claiming us or our children as fugitives from his service, is authorized to seize us, without warrant, and carry us to the land of manacles, whips, and despair: That the right of jury trial, without which a dog or goose could not be taken from us, is denied to us claimed by a slaveholder; and even the writ of *habeas corpus* is powerless to arrest the man who, with a certificate of a justice of the peace, may be dragging us from our homes, and hurrying us to that awful doom which is the portion of those of our sex over whom despotic men exercise unlimited control:

If we are correctly informed, the *men* who make laws in other lands have been so far mindful of the dictates of justice and humanity, that no man can even set up a claim to a *woman as his property*, in any part of Europe; that such a claim would not be recognized by any court *there*, and that the man who should attempt, by violence, to reduce a woman to slavery, would be severely punished, probably with death.

We, therefore, most respectfully and earnestly pray your honorable bodies forthwith to pass such laws as shall give to us the same protection against all such claims, as is now enjoyed by women in Europe. But if such full protection against the claim of the slaveholder would exceed your constitutional powers, then we do beg and entreat that we may, at least, have as much protection for our own persons, as by the laws of the land, we now have for a dog or a goose."

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

General Items.

Terrible Calamity.—On Friday last, about four o'clock in the afternoon, a large portion of the hill, called Mount Ida, back of the city of Troy, New-York, came tumbling down, crushing beneath its ruins several dwellings, with the families that occupied them. It is supposed that some twenty or thirty persons were buried under the avalanche.

The mass of earth which fell was some acres in extent and apparently fifteen or twenty feet in depth. So suddenly did it come, that a man passing at the time, leaped from the sleigh just in time to escape, the horses being buried beneath the earth.

This earth-slide occurred at the head of Washington street, near what is usually called the "Five Points" of Troy; it is in the immediate vicinity of the place, where the terrible avalanche of 1837 occurred. The buildings destroyed were nearly all recently erected; tenanted principally by poor, industrious mechanics.

Gale at Geneva.—During the late gale at Geneva, N. Y. one of the steamboats lying at the wharf was sunk, and a large warehouse was undermined by the waves. About 2000 bushels of wheat, a quantity of flour, and other produce was pitched into the lake.

Cuba and Haiti.—The flurry between these two islands, which at one time threatened serious consequences, has been amicably settled by the Haitien frigate's firing twenty-one guns in honor of the Spanish flag, and the Spanish steamer's returning the compliment to the Haitien flag.

Capital Punishment.—Public discussions on this subject are being held in Massachusetts, in the Representatives Hall; and it is to be hoped that they will soon lead to a wiser legislation. The following resolutions were discussed:

Resolved, That the efficacy of criminal law depends less upon the *severity* of punishment than the *certainty* of infliction.

Resolved, That capital punishment by cheapening human life, and training the feelings of the heart to the infliction of violent death on a fellow-being, fosters the very disposition which acts in the commission of capital crime, and thus promotes the evils which it is designed to prevent.

Resolved, That the excessive severity of the law operates to the total impunity of a great proportion of offenders, by deterring humane persons from prosecuting, and by holding out temptations to jurors to disregard their oath, rather than be accessary to judicial murder.

Resolved, That one great objection to capital punishment is, the chance of its infliction upon those who are innocent, and who, by the imperfection of human tribunals, and an unfortunate combination of circumstances, may be condemned.

Earthquake.—A slight earthquake, not accompanied by any dangerous consequences, was felt in Carolina and Georgia, on the 8th instant.

It is stated that since the recent earthquake at the West, a large whirlpool has been formed in the Mississippi river, about 300 miles below St. Louis.

Unprofitable Excitement.—Mr. Miller was lately preaching at the Chinese Museum, in Philadelphia, and the crowd was so great that many could not get in. In order to empty the house, and make room for themselves, some raised the cry, "The end has come!" "The end has come!" Many became so alarmed, that they rushed for the doors, and leaped through the windows to get out.

NOTICES.

WORCESTER ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

There will be an adjourned quarterly meeting of the Worcester County North Division Anti-Slavery Society, at Leominster, Mass. on Wednesday, the 8th of March next, at 10 o'clock A. M. It is expected to continue two days, as able speakers have been invited to be present on the occasion.

All true hearted friends in the North Division, and vicinity, are earnestly invited to attend.

BENJAMIN WYMAN *Rec. Sec'y.*

RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE.

"Resolved, That a distinction, in the Constitution of this State, between white and colored male adults, with regard to the right of suffrage, is contrary to the genius of our institutions and ought to be abolished." Affirmative—Abraham Crist, esq. Negative—D. E. Wheeler, esq.

This resolution, (the sixth of the course,) will be discussed at the Broadway Tabernacle on Friday evening, February 24th. H. MAXWELL, *President*.
W. B. WEDGEWOOD, *Secretary*.

BUCKS COUNTY.

A quarterly meeting of the Bucks County Anti-Slavery Society will be held at Dolington, on Seventh-day the 4th of Third-month, 1843, at 1 o'clock P. M.

The public generally are invited to attend.

WM. BURGESS, *Sec'y.*

FIRST WESTERN N. Y. ANTI-SLAVERY FAIR!!
To be held at Rochester, the 22d of 2d-mo. 1843.

The undersigned, feeling that we cannot stand still at the mere announcement that we are abolitionists, and discountenance in every way, the iniquitous system of holding property in man, but that we feel that the American people should be aroused to a sense of their guilt, and until we had individually proffered our aid in this great work, we could not "lay the flattering unction to our souls," that we had discharged our duty; therefore, we feel called upon to labor, trusting in God. Although our efforts may produce but small results at present, we do not despair, but press forward with greater ardor; for truly we are almost daily reminded that a necessity for further exertions are needful and pressing.

We conclude, by appealing to all classes and conditions, to aid us in this work of benevolence. Although the time is short for preparation, nevertheless we invite all to contribute of their substance; particularly our friends in the country, who, from the abundant productions of their farms, may do much towards causing the heart of the bondman to rejoice.

(Signed,)—*Abigail Bush, Mary Ann McClintock, Sarah A. Burtis, Amy Post, Ann Pound, Sarah L. Hallowell, Sarah D. Fish, Phebe Smith, Mary H. Hallowell, Elizabeth Curtis, Rhoda de Garmo, Phebe Hathaway, Rozana Grover.*

ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTIONS FOR THE PEOPLE, IN WESTERN NEW-YORK.

Anti-slavery conventions will be held at the following places, commencing at 10 o'clock

Poetry.

For the National Anti-Slavery Standard.

FANNY.—A TRUE SKETCH.

A lowly cot, with rugged roof,
Our Fanny calls her happy bower;
On the tangled grass, with flowery woof,
Blind Thomas sits full many an hour;
But downy woof, and tangled grass,
Are green, and bright, in vain for him;
The seasons come and quickly pass,
Each season finds his vision dim;
The locust warps around him there
Its thorny boughs of pleasant green;
Violets blue and lilies fair,
Peep from out a clambering screen
Of honeysuckles bright with rain;
And pine-clad hills droop to the sea.
In sooth, 'tis sad that all in vain
To Thomas this fair scene should be!
There lies the book he loved to read,
The woods in which he loved to stroll;
Methinks this poor black man hath need
Of an enduring, patient soul.

Dark without, and darker yet within,
Like a proud stoic he each grief endures;
No morning prayer, nor evening hymn,
Speaks of the joy that faith alone procures.
What bids his stricken heart rejolce,
And throws a gleam around his life?
It is our Fanny's cheerful voice,
His pious, trusting, faithful wife!
For him she toils, for him she prays;
Her hand upholds his feverish head;
And if the thought of other days
Arise, her bitterest tears are shed
Aside; and every joy she can confer
Is his; the hours of anguish all for her.
'Tis thus around her darkest hours,
With trembling hand she sweetly twines
Faith's choicest amaranthine flowers,
That brighter grow as day declines.
Purged from the world's alluring dross,
On Fanny's heart is stamped the cross.
On earth, yet fanned by angel wings,
She thinks the zephyr sweeps her brow,
Nor deems herself a type of blissful things,
That join the Future to the fading Now.
Lone one! thy heavenly course pursue!
Toil on,—aye, weep—for Jesus wept.
When life's sad pilgrimage is through,
Fear not the slumber that thy Saviour slept.

E. A. COMSTOCK.

From the Saratoga Sentinel.

THE WIFE'S APPEAL.

You took me, William, when a girl,
Unto your home and heart,
To bear, in all your after life,
A fond and faithful part;
And, tell me, have I ever tried
That duty to forego,
Or griev'd because I had not joy
When you were sunk in wo?

No—I would rather share your tears
Than any other's glee,
For though you're nothing to the world,
You're all the world to me—
You make a palace of my shed,
This rough-hewn bench a throne;
There's sunlight for me in your smiles,
And music in your tone.

I look upon you when you sleep,
My eyes with tears grow dim;
I cry, "O parent of the poor,
Look down from heaven on him;
Behold him toil from day to day,
Exhausting strength and soul,
Oh look in mercy on him, Lord,
For thou canst make him whole."

And when at last relieving sleep
Has on my eyelids smiled,
How oft are they forbid to close
In slumber, by our child!
I take the little murmurer,
That spoils my span of rest,
And feel it is a part of thee
I lull upon my breast.

There's only one return I crave,
I may not need it long;
And it may soothe thee when I'm where
The wretched feel no wrong;
I ask not for a kinder tone,
For thou wert ever kind;
I ask not for less frugal fare,
My fare I do not mind;

I ask not for attire more gay,
If such as I have got
Suffice to make me fair to thee,
For more I murmur not;
But I would ask some of the hours
That you on "clubs" bestow—
Of knowledge which you prize so much,
Might I not something know?

Subtract from meetings amongst men,
Each eve an hour for me;
Make me companion of your soul,
As I may safely be;
If you will read, I'll sit and work,
Then think when you're away;
Less tedious I shall find the time,
Dear William, if you stay.

A meet companion soon I'll be
For your most studious hours,
And teacher of those little ones
You call your cottage flowers;
And if we be not rich and great,
We may be wise and kind,
And as my heart can warm your heart,
So may your mind, my mind.

CHILDHOOD.

BY THOMAS HOOD.

I remember, I remember,
The house where I was born!
The little window where the sun
Came peeping in at morn!
He never came a wink too soon,
Or brought too long a day—
But now I often wish the light
Had borne my breath away.

I remember, I remember,
The roses red and white,
The violets and lily-cups,
Those flowers made of light—
The lilacs where the robins built,
And where my brother set
The laburnum, on his birthday—
The tree is living yet.

I remember, I remember,
Where I was used to swing,
And thought the air would rush as fresh
To swallows on the wing.
My spirit flew on feathers then,
That is so heavy now;
And summer pools could hardly cool
The fever on my brow.

I remember, I remember,
The fir-trees dark and high,
I used to think their slender spires
Were close against the sky!
It was a childish ignorance;
But now 'tis little joy,
To know I'm further off from heaven,
Than when I was a boy.

Miscellany.

THE LAST HOURS OF SPENCER AND HIS ASSOCIATES.

Extracted from Com. Mackenzie's testimony on the Trial.

Two other conspirators were almost as guilty as the three singled out for execution; they could be kept confined without extreme danger to the ultimate safety of the vessel. The three chief mutineers were the only ones capable of navigating and sailing the vessel. By their removal, all motive to capture the vessel, and carry out the original design, would be at once taken away. Their lives were justly forfeited, and the interests of the country, the safety of the sea, and the honor of the flag required the sacrifice. *In the necessity of my position I found the law; and in that necessity I trust for justification.* I thought it best to arm the petty officers. On this point only the first lieutenant differed from me; and I found that he was of the same opinion with some of the petty officers themselves;—they said that since I could not tell whom to trust, it would be best to trust no one. I made up my own mind, and judged of the characters whom I could trust, and determined to arm them. I ordered to be issued to each a cutlass, a pistol, and cartridges. I ordered preparations also to be made for the execution of the three. All hands were called to witness punishment. The whips were arranged, the officers were stationed about the deck, and the petty officers were directed to cut down every man who should let go his whip, or fail to haul when ordered.

I put on my full uniform, came on deck, and proceeded to execute the most painful duty, that ever devolved upon any officer in the American navy—the announcement to the prisoners of the fate that awaited them. I approached Spencer, and said to him: "You were about to take my life, Mr. Spencer, without provocation, without cause, or the slightest offense. You intended to kill me suddenly—in the night, while I was buried in sleep, without giving me a single moment to send one word of affection to my wife, one prayer to God for her welfare. Your life is now forfeited; and the necessity of the case compels me to take it. I do not intend, however, to imitate you in the mode of claiming the sacrifice. If there be in your breast one feeling true to nature, you will be grateful for the premature disclosure of your horrible designs. You surely ought to be thankful that you have been prevented from the terrible deeds you meditated. If you have any word to send to your father, any satisfaction to express to him, that you were not allowed to become a pirate, as you ought to do, you will have ten minutes granted in which to write it." Midshipman Thompson was then directed to note the time, and inform me when it had expired.

Spencer seemed overcome with emotion. He burst into a flood of tears, sank on his knees, and said he was not fit to die. I repeated to him his catechism, and begged him to offer sincere prayers for the divine forgiveness. I recommended to him the English prayer-book, assuring him that he would find in it something to suit all his necessities. Cromwell fell upon his knees, protesting his innocence, and invoking the name of his wife. Spencer declared that Cromwell was innocent, and begged that this might be believed. This, I confess, staggered me; but the evidence of his guilt was conclusive. Lieutenant Ganesvoort said, that there was not a shadow of doubt of it. The petty officers said he was the man from whom real apprehension was entertained. He was at first the accomplice of Spencer, and was then urged on by him, and had been by him turned to his account. I tried to show him how Spencer had endeavored to use him, and told Spencer that he had made remarks about him he would not consider very flattering. He expressed great anxiety to know what they were. I told him that Cromwell had said of him and another person, that there was a "d—d fool on one side, and a d—d knave on the other;" and told him that Cromwell would have allowed him to live only so long as he could make him useful to himself. This roused him, and from that time he said no more of Cromwell's innocence.

Subsequent circumstances made me believe that Spencer wished me to save him, probably from the hope that he would yet get possession of the vessel, and carry out his original design; and perhaps that Cromwell would in some way effect his rescue. He endeavored at the same time, to persuade me, that Small was only an alias for some one else on his list—though this was proved to be false. Small, alone, was the one we had set down as the poltroon of the three; yet he received the announcement of his fate with great composure. He was asked what preparation he wished to make. He said he had none. "Nobody cares for me," said he, "but my poor, old mother, and I would rather she should not know what has become of me."

I returned to Spencer. I asked him what message he had to send to his friends. He said, "None. Tell them that I die wishing them every blessing and happiness. I deserve death for this and other crimes. There are few crimes I have not committed. I am sincerely penitent for them all. I only fear my repentance is too late." I asked him if there was any one whom he had injured, to whom he could make reparation—any who were suffering obloquy on his account? He said, "No; but this will kill my poor mother." I did not know before that he had a mother, and was touched by this allusion to her. I asked him if it would not have been far more dreadful if he had succeeded in his attempt—if it were not much better to die as he would, than to become a pirate and steep himself so terribly in blood and guilt? He said, "I do not know what would have become of me if I had succeeded." I told him that Cromwell would soon have made away with him, and that McKinley would probably have destroyed them both. He said, "he feared this would injure his father." "Had you succeeded," I replied, "the injury you would have done him would have been much greater." If it had been possible to have taken him home, as I at first intended, I told him that he would have got clear, as in America a man with money and influential friends would always be cleared; that the course I was taking would injure his father less than if he should go home, be condemned, yet again escape. He said, that he had attempted the same thing on board the John Adams, and the Potomac; but had been unsuccessful. He asked if I had not exaggerated the danger. I told him, "No; that his attempts to corrupt the crew had been to widely successful; that I knew of the existence of the conspiracy, but did not know how extensive it was." I recapitulated to him his acts. He was startled when I told him of his stealing brandy. He admitted the justice of his fate, but asked me if I was not "going too far and too fast. Does the law justify you?" said he. I replied that his opinion was not unprejudiced; that I had consulted all the officers, and they had given their opinion that it was just—that he deserved death. He asked, "what would be the manner of his death." I explained to him. He requested that he might be shot. I told him that it could not be; that he must be hung. He admitted that it was just. He objected to the shortness of the time, and requested that an hour might be given to prepare. I made no answer to this, but allowed much more than the hour he asked for to elapse. He requested that his face might be covered. I granted his request, and asked him what it should be covered with. He said a handkerchief. In his locker was found a black one, which was put on his face. Cromwell and Small made the same request, and frocks were taken from their lockers, with which their heads were covered.

Spencer asked for a bible and prayer-book; they were given to him. He said, "I am a believer—but do you think that my repentance will be accepted?" I called to his mind the thief on the cross, and told him that God's mercies were equal to all his wants. He kneeled down and read from the prayer-book, and asked if I thought his time was short. I told him God not only understood his case but could suit his grace to it. He begged that I would forgive him. I told him I did most sincerely and cordially, and asked if I had done anything which made him seek my life or whether his hatred was unfounded. He said he thought it only fancy. "Perhaps," he added, "there was something in your manner which offended me." I read over to him what I had written down. He wished me to alter the passage in which I said that he "offered *as an excuse*, that he had attempted the same thing on the John Adams, and Potomac." He only mentioned it as a fact, he said.

More than an hour had now elapsed. Spencer as he met Cromwell, paused and asked to see Mr. Wales. As he passed Cromwell he said not a word of his innocence, nor did he make any appeal in his favor. Spencer said, "Wales, I hope you will forgive me for tampering with your fidelity." Wales replied, overcome with emotion, "I do forgive you from the bottom of my heart, and I hope God will forgive you also." Wales was weeping, and Spencer in passing met Small at the gangway. He extended his hand and said, "Small forgive me for having brought you into trouble." Small answered, "No, by G—d, Spencer, I cannot forgive you." Spencer repeated his request. Small said, "How can you ask that of me after having brought me to this? We shall soon be before God, and shall there know all about it." Spencer said, "You must forgive me—I cannot die without it." I went to Small and asked him not to cherish any resentment at such a time, and asked him to forgive him. He relented—held out his hand to Spencer, and said, "I do forgive you—and may God forgive you also."

Small then asked my forgiveness. I took his hand, and expressed my forgiveness in the strongest terms. I asked him what I had done that he should ask my life; if I had been harsh, either in deed or word, to him. He exclaimed, "What have you done, Captain Mackenzie? What have you done to me? Nothing—but treated me like a man." I told him of the high responsibilities under which I acted; of the duty I owed my government, and the ship with which it had entrusted me; of his offense towards the commander, and the boys he intended to put to death, and of the high duty I owed to the flag of my country. "RIGHT!" he exclaimed, "God bless that flag, and prosper it!" "Now," said he, "give me a quick and easy death." Spencer said to Lieut. Gansevoort, that his courage had been doubted; but he wished him to bear witness that he died like a brave man. He asked what would be the signal for execution. I told him that I was desirous of hoisting colors at the instant, to show that the flag of the Somers was fixed to the mast-head; and that I intended to beat the call to hoist colors, and then roll off; and at the third roll a gun would be fired as the signal. He asked if it was the gun under him. I told him it was but one removed. He asked if it would be fired by a lock and wafer. I was told that preparations had been made to fire it with a match; and immediately ordered a supply of live coals, and fresh coals to be passed constantly; and then assured him that there should be no delay.

The time was now wearing away. Small requested leave to address the crew. Spencer having had leave to give the signal, was asked if he would give Small the leave he asked. He said yes. Small then said:

"*Shipmates and topmates:* Take warning by my example. I never killed a man, but only said that I would do it, and for that I am about to die. Going in a Guineaman brought me to this. Take warning and never go in a Guineaman." Turning to Spencer, he said, "I am ready to die; are you?"

Cromwell's last words were, "tell my wife that I die innocent; I die an innocent man." From the appearance of this man in assuming to be innocent, it would seem that Spencer took all the risk of the affair, and Cromwell intended to profit by it.

I placed myself where I could take in the whole deck with my eye. No word was given by Spencer. He finally said he could not give the word, and wished me to do it. The word was accordingly given, and the execution took place.

THE EAGLE AND THE CHILD.

A SCOTTISH STORY.

Almost all the people in this parish, which forms the scene of our little tale, were engaged in that most enlivening branch of rural occupation—carrying the meadow-hay from the field in which it grew, to the farm-yards, where it was to be secured in stacks, to preserve it from the influence of the weather; and the huge, heaped-up wains, that almost hid from view the horses that drew them along the sward, were moving in all directions towards the snug farm-yards. Never had the parish seemed before so populous; jocund was the balmy air with laughter, whistle, and song. The dinner hour at length arrived—the horses were unyoked—groups of men, women, lads, lasses, and children, collected under grove, and bush, and hedge-row—graces were pronounced, and the Great Being who gave them that day their daily bread, looked down from His eternal throne, well pleased with the piety of His thankful children.

In the midst of this scene of happiness and contentment, the great, golden eagle, the pride and the pest of the parish, suddenly stooped down, and flew away with something in his talons. One single, sudden, female shriek, and then shouts and outcries, as if a church spire had tumbled down upon a whole congregation! "Hannah Lamond's bairn! Hannah Lamond's bairn!" was the loud, fast-spreading cry. "The eagle's ta'en awa' Hannah Lamond's bairn!" and many hundred feet were, in another instant, hurrying towards the mountain. Two miles of hill, and dale, and copse, and many intersecting brooks, lay between; but in an incredible short time, the foot of the mountain was alive with people. The eyry, or eagle's nest, was well known, and both the old birds were seen sitting on the edge of the rocky ledge, which towered far above. But who shall scale the dizzy cliff, which Mark Stewart, who had been at the storming of many a fort, attempted in vain? All kept gazing, weeping, wringing hands in vain, rooted to the ground, or running backwards and forwards like so many ants, when their colony is disturbed. "What's the use, what's the use of mere human means?" asked some of the elders of the village, in despair; "we have no power, but in prayer!" And many knelt down, fathers and mothers, thinking of their own babies, as if they could force the deaf heavens to hear!

Hannah Lamond, the agonized mother of the child, had all the while been sitting on a rock, with a face perfectly white, and eyes as if ready to start from her head, fixed on the eyry. Nobody had noticed her; for, strong as all sympathies with her had been, they were now completely engrossed in watching the motions of the eagles. "It was only last Sabbath, that my sweet wee bairn was baptized!" she at length exclaimed, in agony; and starting up from the first spot on which she had remained motionless, she flew off towards the cliff, over huge stones, and through thickets, till she reached the foot of the mountain; and then mounting up, up, up, faster than ever huntsman ran in to the death of his game, fearless as a goat playing among precipices. No one doubted, no one could doubt, that she would soon be dashed in pieces. But have not people who walk in their sleep, obedient to the mysterious guidance of dreams, climbed the walls of old ruins, and found footing along the edge even of unguarded battlements, and down dilapidated staircases, deep as draw-wells, or coal-pits, and returned unharmed, to their beds? It is the work of the soul, to whom the body is a slave; and shall not the agony of a mother's passion, who sees her baby hurried off to a hideous death, bear her limbs aloft, till she reach that devouring den; and, in the passion of love, fiercer and more furious than any bird of prey that ever bathed its beak in blood, throttle the fiends that, with their heavy wings, would fain flap her down the cliffs, and hold up her child in deliverance, before the eye of the All-seeing God?

No stop, no stay, did the fearless mother make—she knew not that she drew her breath. Beneath her feet Providence fastened every loose stone, and to her hands strengthened every root. How was she ever to descend? That fear then but once crossed her heart, as up, up, up, to the little image made of her own flesh and blood. "The God who holds me now from perishing, will not the same God save me when my child is in my bosom?" Down came the fierce rushing of the eagle's wings, each savage bird dashing close to her head, so that she could see the savage sternness of their wrathful eyes. But their fury was of no avail—up, up, up, mounted the intrepid mother, till at length she almost reached the eyry, and the eagles, as if quailed, flew to a short distance, and took their post on a stump of a tree which jutted out from the cliff. Another step, and she has reached the nest, and, amid a collection of bones and blood, she clasps her child—dead, dead, no doubt, but unmangled and untorn, and swaddled up just as it was when she laid it down asleep, among the fresh hay, in a corner of the harvest-field. O! what a pang of perfect blessedness transfixed her heart from that faint, feeble cry. "It lives—it lives—it lives!"—and, baring her bosom, with loud laughter, and eyes dry as stones, she felt the lips of the unconscious innocent, once more murmuring at the fount of life and love!

Where all this time was Mark Stewart, the sailor? Half-way up the cliffs; but his eye had got dim, and his head dizzy, and his heart sick; and he, who had so often reefed the top-gallant sail, when at evening the coming of the gale was heard afar, at evening the coming of the eagles was heard afar, and dared look no covered his face with his hands, and dared look no longer on the swimming heights. "And who will take care of my poor bed-ridden mother?" thought Hannah, whose soul, through the exhaustion of so many passions, could no longer retain in its grasp that hope which it had clutched in despair. A voice whispered "God!" She looked round, expecting to see an angel, but nothing moved, except a rotten branch, that, under its own weight, broke off from the crumbling rock. Her eye watched its fall, and it seemed to stop not far off, on a small platform. Her child was bound to her bosom; and, scarcely daring to open her eyes, she slid down the shelving rocks, and found herself on a small piece of firm, root-bound soil, with the tops of the bushes appearing below. With fingers suddenly strengthened to the power of iron, she swung herself down by brier, and broom, and heather, and dwarf-birch. There a loosened stone leapt over a hedge, and no sound was heard, so profound was its fall. Steep as the wall of a house was the side of the precipice; but it was matted with ivy, centuries old, long ago dead, and without a single green leaf, but with thousands of arm-thick stems petrified into the rock, and covering it as with a trellis. With her baby bound to her bosom, she clung with hands and feet to that fearful ladder.

Turning round her head, and looking down, lo! the whole population of the parish, (so great was the multitude,) on their knees! And, hush! the voice of psalms—a hymn breathes the spirit of one united prayer! Sad and solemn was the strain; but nothing dirge-like—breathing not of death, but of deliverance. Often had she sung that tune, perhaps the very words, (but them she heard not,) in her own hut, she and her mother; or at church, along with all the congregation. An unseen hand seemed to fasten her fingers to the ribs of ivy: and in sudden inspiration, believing that her life was to be saved, she became almost as fearless as if she had been changed into a winged creature. Again her feet touched stones and earth; the psalm was hushed—but a tremulous, sobbing voice was close behind her—and lo! a she goat, with her two little kids at her feet! "Wild heights do these creatures climb," thought she; "but the dam will lead down her kids by the easiest paths; for oh! even in brute creatures, what is the holy power of a mother's love!" And, turning round her head, she kissed her sleeping baby; and, for the first time, she wept.

Overhead frowned the front of the precipice, never visited before by human hand or foot. No one had ever dreamt of scaling it; and the golden eagles knew that well, in their instinct; as before they built their eyry, they had brushed it with their wings. But all the rest of this part of the mountain-side, though scarred, and seamed, and chasmed, was yet accessible; and more than one person in the parish had reached the bottom of "the glead's cliff." Many were now attempting it; and ere the cautious mother had followed her dumb guides a hundred yards, though among dangers, which—although enough to terrify the stoutest heart, were traversed by her without a shudder—the head of one man appeared, and then the head of another; and she knew that God had delivered her and her child in safety into the care of their fellow-creatures. Not a word was spoken—eye said enough; she hushed her friends with her hands; and with uplifted eyes, pointed to the guides sent to her by heaven. Small, green flats, where those creatures nibble the wild flowers, became now more frequent; bolder lines, almost as easy as sheep-paths, showed that the dam had not led her young into danger; and now the brushwood dwindled among the straggling shrubs; and the party stood on a little eminence above the stream, and forming part of the strath. There had been trouble and agitation, much sobbing, and many tears, among the multitude, while the mother was scaling the cliffs. Sublime was the shout that echoed afar, the moment she reached the eyry; and now that her salvation was sure, the great crowd rustled like a wind-swept wood.

And for whose sake was all this alternation of agony? A poor, humble creature, unknown to many, even by name; one who had but few friends, nor wished for more; contented to work all day here, there, and anywhere, that she might be able to support her aged mother, and little child; and who, on Sabbath, took her seat in an obscure pew, set apart for paupers in the church!

"Fall back, and give her fresh air," said the old minister of the parish; and the circle of close faces widened around her, lying as in death. "Gie me the bonnie bit bairn into my arms," cried first one mother, and then another; and it was tenderly handed round the circle, many of the kind-hearted creatures bathing its face in tears. "There's no' a single scratch about the puir innocent; for the eagle, you see, maun hae stuck its talons into the lang claes and the shawl. Blind, blind indeed must they be, who see not the finger of God in this thing!"

Hannah started up from her swoon, looking wildly round, and cried, "O, the bird, the bird! the eagle, the eagle! The eagle has carried off my bonnie wee Walter. Is there nane to pursue?" A neighbor put her baby into her bosom; and shutting her eyes, and striking her forehead, the sorely bewildered creature said, in a low voice, "Am I awake? oh, tell me if I am awake; or is a' this the work of a fever, and the delirium of a dream!"

[From Colman's Fourth Agricultural Report of Massachusetts.]

A MODEL FARM.

In giving an account of the agriculture of Middlesex county, the farm of Elias Phinney, of Lexington, may be expected to occupy a prominent place. In the skillful and judicious improvements which he has effected, I think the farmers of Massachusetts would not long hesitate to allow him the precedence. This I know is high, but not undeserved praise.

I am unable to procure a detailed report of the products of this farm, but its improvements constitute its principal interest. It consists of one hundred and sixty acres, of rough and hard land, of knolls and peat swamps, which, by extraordinary skill and labor, have been converted into a most productive farm, everywhere exhibiting the triumphs of intelligence and skill, and of labor directed by sound judgment.

When his improvements commenced, ten tons of hay were the annual product; now, one hundred are obtained. The stock on the farm consists of six horses, three yokes of oxen, twenty-four milch cows, from one hundred to one hundred and fifty swine, and a large flock of wether sheep for fatting.

I have already given some account of the pork usually fatted on the farm, and the whole method of keeping and fattening his swine. The milk is daily taken at the farm by a neighboring milkman. Large amounts of fruit, apples, and peaches, and grapes, and of vegetables, are sent frequently to market, and considerable amounts of hay are sold. One great principle, however, is constantly regarded, to consume on the place all the produce of the place, when it can be done without loss, for the sake of the manure.

The improvements on the farm have consisted mainly in the redemption of the peat meadows, and of these I have given a full account. He has, to some extent, likewise practised the irrigation of his lands, by conducting water from a pond, which is situated on a high part of his farm, by successive channels on a side-hill through his orchard, and upon a portion of his mowing lands. The benefits of this he pronounces very great. The transit of mere spring water, without any intermixture, has the most beneficial effects in quickening and perfecting vegetation; and many farmers in the State might avail themselves, at small expense, of local advantages which they enjoy for doing this, which are now wholly neglected.

A second great improvement on Mr. Phinney's farm, may be said to consist in the manufacture of manure. On this point, likewise, I have spoken at large, and it is one which ought strongly to attract the attention of the farmers. Many a farmer now expends large sums in the purchase and transportation of manure, when he has on his own farm, or in his immediate vicinity, the means of making a compost, of equal value, at half the expense.

The third great improvement now going on, on this model farm, is the improvement of the pasture lands. This is a matter which I have often urged, but to which few farmers have given any consideration; and therefore in general nothing is more disreputable to the large majority of farmers throughout the State, than the condition of their pastures. Mr. Phinney, as far as his manure heap will allow him to do it, ploughs and manures his pasture ground, removing as many of the stones as can conveniently be taken away; but where his manure is deficient, he simply ploughs the land, completely inverting the sward, sowing rye and grass-seed, and rolling it down. This effects at once a beneficial change, greatly increases the amount of feed, and is preparatory to a more liberal cultivation.

The fourth improvement is in the extensive cultivation of fruit. Mr. Phinney has stocked his place very fully with the best of engrafted fruits, of apples, pears, peaches, and grapes; and does not deem the common method sufficient, though generally practised, of planting the trees, and then telling them to grow of themselves; but gives to every one of his trees his particular personal attention, and considers their cultivation, by ploughing and manuring his grounds, and carefully trimming and supporting his trees, of equal necessity and use as that of any garden plant whatever.

Mr. Phinney's crop of corn, the current year, by measurement, averaged seventy bushels to the acre; his potatoes three hundred bushels, and his hay from two to upwards of four tons. He has been in the habit of raising wheat for years. His crops of wheat average from twenty-five to thirty bushels, and he considers it ordinarily as certain a crop as any which grows upon his farm. I apprehend this is owing to abundant manuring, and clean cultivation for the crop that precedes it, and to the excellent condition of the land. It is spring wheat, and generally sown after corn. He chooses to get the seed in early in April.

The farm of Mr. Phinney everywhere displays energy, judgment, and skill; courage to conflict with obstacles, and perseverance in subduing them. The sole object is profit; everything, therefore, is managed in the most frugal manner consistent with the proper accomplishment of the object in view. His farming, on this account, may be recommended to the poorest farmers as an example, as it shows them what may be accomplished under discouraging circumstances; and the means within reach of those, whose circumstances are restricted, of converting their now profitless lands into the most productive fields; and demonstrating under what circumstances in agriculture labor and capital may be amply compensated.

SEDUCTION AND REVENGE.

About a fortnight ago, there was considerable excitement in Philadelphia, occasioned by the sudden disappearance of a young and handsome girl, aged about sixteen, named Sarah Mercer, the daughter of Thomas Mercer, 33 Queen street, one of the most wealthy and respectable inhabitants of Southwark. A young man, named Hutchinson Heberton, was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in her abduction, and taken before Alderman Mitchell, at the instance of the girl's brother, who threatened him with instant death if he refused; but he was discharged, in consequence of the girl's return to her parents on Wednesday evening. It was ascertained, however, that Heberton had seduced the young girl, and that she had gone to a house of ill-fame, in the neighborhood of Pine and Twelfth streets, kept by Louisa O'Neil, where he had been in the habit of meeting her.

Miss Mercer's absence, as well as her return, according to all statements, was voluntary. The anguish of the family, at the knowledge of the dishonor that had fallen upon the daughter, no tongue can tell, nor pen describe. To wipe out the stain, so far as it was possible so to do, a marriage was proposed to the seducer. This was declined on his part, and the brother of the seduced then challenged him. This was also declined. The infuriate brother, stung almost to madness, determined not to be baulked in his revenge. He watched the movements of Heberton, and having ascertained that he was to leave the city on Friday afternoon, or evening, in a carriage, by way of Camden, he managed to discover the same in the street, when he employed one of Vanseiver's vehicles, driven by a young man, to whom Mercer gave instructions, pointing out the carriage, to lose sight of it on no condition, but keep close to it, and wherever it went, to follow after it. In this carriage, in company with Heberton, was seated his legal friend and adviser, James C. Vandyke, esq. from whose office the deceased had left, with the avowed object of preventing a meeting with the misguided and excited Mercer. After having driven through several streets, the carriage entered the ferry-boat, John Fitch, then lying at Market-street wharf. Mercer, following after, leaped from his vehicle unobserved, and concealed himself behind a box on board the boat, armed with one of Colt's six-barreled pistols. Shortly after, the carriage was driven on board, with the blinds drawn up; and when within a few yards of the Jersey shore, Mr. Vandyke got out of the same, walked around, it is presumed, to see that all was safe, when Mercer approached the carriage, and fired four balls into it, in quick succession. One of of them proved fatal, taking effect under the left shoulder blade, and penetrating the heart. Heberton was conveyed to Coke's tavern, in Camden, where he expired in a few minutes. The murderer was immediately arrested, and upon his person was found the pistol, two barrels of which still retained their charge. His conduct, during the remainder of the evening, is represented as having been wild and frantic, evidently laboring under the most intense excitement.

The parties in the above lamentable drama are of the most wealthy and respectable character. The name of the murderer is Singleton Mercer; for the past two or three years a clerk in the store of Carson & Newbold, not yet *twenty years of age*, fond of society and the world. The murdered, Hutchinson Heberton, was the son of the late Dr. Heberton, an estimable man, and who died possessed of great wealth. He is also related to the Messrs. Hebertons, merchants, Matthew Newkirk, and numerous other wealthy and respectable citizens. He was about twenty-three years of age, and considered one of the handsomest young men in Philadelphia. He resided with his widowed mother, in Ninth street, near Arch, where his lifeless body was conveyed. The funeral was attended by thousands.

The period has not been long, since the very offense for which Heberton has been violently sent into eternity, was actually committed by his murderer, Singleton Hall Mercer, upon the person of a poor, friendless, servant girl, in the family of his aged and respected parents, but which, for the consideration of some three hundred dollars, was quietly hushed up.

Mercer is in Woodbury jail, awaiting his trial. The verdict of the coroner's jury was, willful murder. It is said the prisoner is almost frantic, and looks the picture of the severest mental agony.

The wretched girl, who occasioned all this sin and suffering, is in a state of stupefaction, with signs of insanity. Her mother is completely distracted, and it is thought the shock will kill her.

From the New-York Sun.

A PICTURE OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

We disclaim any intention, or wish, to create a prejudice against Lieut. McKenzie. We sincerely believe, that compared with the average of naval officers, he is "*unusually just, and humane*," as his officers declared him to be, under oath; and we know that many of the sailors and apprentices speak with gratitude and affection of his mild and equitable government, as compared with the service in general; besides this, we have the informal testimony of the high officers composing the court of inquiry, that there was nothing uncommon or illegal in the punishments on board the Somers. The gentlemen were evidently used to such things. We cannot, therefore, be accused of unfairness, when we state, as an instance of remarkable tenderness, that in six months, *only* two thousand two hundred and sixty-five lashes were distributed among one hundred and twenty-three men and boys; that men of "good character" did not get flogged more than six times in one cruise; that a "good boy," of fourteen, escaped with the same amount of punishment; that another "smart and active" boy of fourteen, received but 101 lashes in two months; that even a "dull and stupid" youth of eighteen, was only whipped three times for not cleaning the battle-axes, etc. and several "bad" boys even escaped with a dozen each, the whole cruise.

These are data by which we may judge of the attractions which our navy, *in its best arrangements*, offers to respectable men. Everything on board the Somers was done "decently and in order." There is an air of decorum and moral propriety in an entry like this: "June 15. Read prayers, and punished the following boys with a colt, by order of the captain." There were ten of the boys then whipped; and as many men and boys, on the 4th of July. "Read prayers and punished," seems to come harshly together; but after all, it is rather an evidence that these floggings were not given from sheer ill-temper, as is too often the case in ships of war. There is no evading the fact, that every degree of degrading cruelty is practised at will by the officers; and it is equally notorious, that all chance of redress is nearly hopeless. To appeal to a court composed, as it must be, of officers assuming the same powers, would be worse than useless. It is the business of the Secretary of the Navy to ascertain how far such severity of discipline comports with the rights of humanity, and the real efficiency of the navy. Every day of inaction, on a question like this, is a reproach to himself, and a disgrace to the nation.

THE SUB-MARINE TELESCOPE.

INVENTED BY A WOMAN.

This valuable invention of Mrs. P. Mather, of Brooklyn, we have already noticed. The apparatus was then arranged for examining only the bottom of rivers, bays, lakes, and other deep waters. A person at the surface could, by means of this instrument, obtain a clear view of the water at almost any depth, and at the distance of twenty feet in every direction from the lamp, which communicates to the surface by means of a tube. Since that time Mrs. Mather has added an important improvement, which enables one standing on the deck of a vessel, to view the under part as distinctly as ones sees his own face in a mirror. This improvement is effected by the application of mirrors, or reflectors, within the telescope, by means of which a side light is reflected, and the bottom of the vessel thus brought plainly into view. This invention must be of great importance to our navy, and to navigators throughout the world. It might at once be applied to the removal of the obstructions in the Mississippi, and other rivers, and to the discovery of these unfortunate boats, and the recovery of the imperishable part of the cargoes, which have been almost daily lost there, amounting to many millions of dollars per annum. No matter how turbid the water may be, the illuminating power of the instrument overcomes its utmost opacity. A pin has been distinctly seen in the muddy bottom of our bay on a windy day at the depth of twenty-two feet.—*New-York Commercial Advertiser.*

Miscellaneous Items.

Death.—Commodore Hull, commander of the famous "Constitution," died at Philadelphia, on the 13th of February.

Prejudice against Color.—The New Orleans Tropic says the Sandwich Island Chief, who was refused a seat at table with other passengers on board a steamboat between New-York and New Haven, on account of his color, took lodgings at the first hotel in New Orleans, and dined at the public table, with three or four hundred gentlemen. Are the prejudices of the North against colored skins stronger and less rational than those of the South?

Snow in Florida.—Snow made its appearance at Tallahasse, Florida, for the first time for a great many years, on the first of February. The young people were very much astonished, and performed many amusing freaks. It was feared the cold would injure the orange and other fruit trees.

Running from Happiness.—Seven negro slaves, in the vicinity of Maysville, Ky. recently made their escape from their masters on a single night.

Murder in High Life.—Colonel Hepburn, a person well known in some of our northern cities, was shot dead, a short time since, in the Insurance Bank of Columbus, Georgia, by General McDougald. Col. Hepburn having put his hand into his breast-pocket, to take out his pocket-book, Gen. McDongald supposed he was drawing a pistol, with intent to shoot him; and, under this impression, snatched his own pistol from his pocket, and shot Col. Hepburn dead, as above stated. Gen. McDongald had received a letter, stating that Col. Hepburn would make an attack upon him, to anticipate which he committed the murder. It is not known that Col. Hepburn had any weapons upon his person. Gen. McDougald is a brother of the candidate for Congress, to succeed Mr. Habersham, and a highly respectable man. The jury of inquest returned a verdict of *accidental death!*

Capital Punishment.—A bill to abolish punishment by death, was passed in the Michigan House of Representatives, on the 31st ult. by a vote of 35 to 15. It had been previously debated with spirit and interest, and a clause making the imprisonment which was to be the substituted punishment, solitary and for life, was stricken out.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

Shocking Accident.—A farmer in Scipio, N. Y. was lately thrashing oats with a horse power machine, put his little child, about four years old, upon the central stand, in order that the little fellow might witness the movement of the horses. After watching the working for some minutes, the father went off a short distance to procure some oats. The little fellow by some means got upon the cogs of the central wheel, and before the father had returned, both of the legs of the boy were most shockingly mangled. It was necessary to amputate one of them just above the knee. The other, although greatly lacerated, may probably be saved.—*Auburn Journal.*

Singular Occurrence.—On Wednesday week, two ladies belonging to the family of Mr. Creighton, who reside near the Clifton House, at Niagara Falls, had a narrow escape from an awful death. They were in a sleigh, driving a horse belonging to Mr. Creighton, and when near the well known Table Rock, by some mismangement on the part of the ladies, the horse backed toward the precipice, and fell over into the dreadful gulf below.—Providentially, the ladies sprang out, before the horse made the leap. Of course, the horse and sleigh were dashed to pieces, the height from which they fell being more than one hundred and sixty feet.—*Com. Adv.*

Camphine Lamps.—The papers abound with bad accidents occasioned by the explosion of camphine.

Ruling Passion Strong in Death.—A German in Pennsylvania was lately drowned in attempting to cross a milldam, when the ice was weak. As he was sinking for the last time, he took his employer's keys from his pocket, and threw them safely upon the ice. The deceased was remarkable for his fidelity and trustworthiness. His last act must be looked upon as the instinctive action of the ruling principle which governed him through life.

The "Liberty Bell," for 1843.

THE "LIBERTY BELL," FOR 1843, IS FOR SALE, AT 143 Nassau street,—Edited by Maria W. Chapman, and containing choice articles by some of the ablest men in the anti-slavery ranks. Also, a few packs of anti-slavery visiting cards, beautifully executed—very cheap.
February 16.

Popular English Periodicals,

Republished in New-York

LONDON, QUARTERLY, EDINBURGH, FOREIGN, AND WESTMINSTER REVIEWS:

Blackwood's and the Dublin University Magazines; AND THE LONDON CHRISTIAN OBSERVER.

☞ The above periodicals continue to be published at *one-third the price of the English edition*, with the same fidelity which has been universally acknowledged to characterize their execution. The publisher wishes it to be distinctly understood, that these periodicals are delivered to the subscribers in the principal cities of the Union, *free of postage, or other incidental expense*; the Magazines within the same month of their publication in England, and the Reviews immediately afterwards, with the utmost despatch.

TERMS.—The numbers of each work are issued separately, and are printed with good type on a large octavo page, and on paper of a superior quality. Blackwood's Magazine, the D